

**THE HOUSE
OF
ROOSEVELT**

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House of Roosevelt.



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THE HOUSE OF ROOSEVELT

**PUBLISHED AUGUST, 1936, BY
THE AUTHOR'S PUBLISHING COMPANY**

●
REVISED EDITION

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THE HOUSE OF ROOSEVELT

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PAUL HABER

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REVISED EDITION

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THE AUTHOR'S PUBLISHING COMPANY
1077 EAST 14TH STREET
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

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Nicholas Roosevelt

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Nicholas Rosevelt

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Nicholaes Rosenvelt

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Claes Martenszen

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FOREWORD

Every schoolboy knows the story of the discovery of America and of the early colonies English, Dutch, Swedish, French and Spanish. The power and influence of the English gradually asserted themselves and, by the end of the seventeenth century, we find the Eastern seaboard of this continent occupied by the 13 English colonies which were afterwards to become the first 13 of the United States of America.

We are all familiar with the history of the revolt of the Colonies against England on account of excessive taxation, and the long and bitter and arduous campaign that finally achieved for us our independence under the leadership of the glorious George Washington.

There were great and noble men in those days. Washington, who was one of the richest men in the country, risked his estates and fortune in what seemed to be a hopeless enterprise. He served as commander-in-chief of the rebel forces without pay; he gave his time and energy and leadership, sharing the hardships of his men and never faltering in his ideal to establish a free America.

His followers wanted to make him king, but he would have none of it; instead, he and his brilliant comrades fashioned for us the glorious Constitution which is the bulwark of our liberties and a model for all nations for all times. They had already given us the famous Declaration of Independence in words that ring out through the ages and have become an inspiration to the down-trodden and oppressed of all countries, establishing here equality for all men and beckoning to all free spirits to come to this land of equal opportunity.

“We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

In drawing up the Constitution with its clear-cut assignment of power to Congress as law-maker, to the Judiciary as a kind of referee in interpreting the laws and as a brake on Congress for the protection of the people and of the individual States, and to the President as Executive, the original framers of that stupendous document conferred great powers on the President, which office a thankful nation unanimously conferred on Washington, giving him the power of veto over our legislation and also making him commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy. But Washington was not ambitious. He might have been President for life if he had wanted to, yet it was with reluctance that he accepted a second term of office and then

retired to private life, giving us his famous Farewell Message as a guide to future generations.

In the 100 years that followed the death of Washington, we have had 25 Presidents, not all of equal ability or merit but all imbued with the spirit of the Declaration of Independence and all loyal to the Constitution, none of them seeking to perpetuate their tenure of office or to install their families in control. Under their leadership, the country grew to four times its original area, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and to 25 times its original population, attracting millions of immigrants from beyond the seas. Irish, English and Scotch, Scandinavians, Germans, Italians, Poles and Russians arrived in successive waves. Farmers, laborers and artisans they were, sturdy folk who were glad to escape the petty despotisms of Europe and settle in this land of opportunity and liberty. These were our true aristocrats, every one of them with an ancestry going right back to Adam, and every one with hope in his heart. Their descendants are this virile, manly race we call Americans, second to none in ability or energy or general education.

During that century great crises arose, but they were speedily surmounted. We passed through the horrors of the Civil War under the leadership of the immortal Lincoln, and our sacrifices were repaid by the abolition of slavery, the firm riveting together of the nation, and the promulgation of the doctrine of "government of the people, by the people and for the people."

In the industrial era that followed the Civil

War, the wealth of the country grew enormously and great fortunes were acquired, but no restrictions were placed on the earning of money other than those imposed on unfair combinations of capital during the administration of Theodore Roosevelt. This became the land of opportunity where a man's earning power was only limited by his ability and the advantage he took of his opportunities. Before the law, however, all were equal, rich and poor alike, and the universal and secret ballot gave the people the power to frequently change the administrators of the State and National Governments when they ran contrary to the will of the majority.

These principles of equality of birth and equality of opportunity have given us "The American's Creed," of which we can justly be proud:

"I believe in the United States of America as a Government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrifice their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies."

CHAPTER I

WHO ARE THE ROOSEVELTS?

Henry Ford once remarked that "History is the bunk" and there are certainly grounds for that assertion. Erudite historians entertain us at length with accounts of the daily actions and even thoughts of individuals who lived thousands of years ago, or maybe never existed at all, but were purely legendary, while these scholars appear to be hopelessly incapable of interpreting present day or recent events or of appraising the careers political or financial tycoons of modern times who exert such a tremendous influence over our everyday lives.

All our historians have traced the origin of the Roosevelt family to a mythical Van Rosevelt of a distinguished Dutch family who settled here in 1649. As Rosevelt is not a common Dutch name, they have even gone to the trouble of tracing down and locating a family of that name, the only such family known in Holland and which once existed in the little village of Oud-Vossemer in the island of Tholan in Zeeland. A daring adventurer has recently brought back from there photographs of a modern house evidently not 50 years old, a picture of which was reproduced in the Sun-

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Coat of Arms of the Van Rosevelt Family of Holland

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day New York Times in April 1936, and which is represented to be the ancestral home of the Van Roosevelts, and also the coat of arms of that family to attempt to prove the noble origin of the American Roosevelts.

This is all very interesting and makes a pretty story, but it behooves us to get the record straight. The first hole in this story is that the Van Rosevelts of Oud-Vossemer were in very comfortable circumstances and no member of that family is ever known to have emigrated. Again, in the baptismal records for January 8, 1651, we find the name of Emanuel Van Angola, Neger. This means simply Emanuel from Angola. More pertinent, however, is that fact that the known ancestor of the Roosevelt family was not a Van Rosevelt at all and had no noble origin, but was an individual named Claes Martenszen (in English spelling Nicholas Martison), who professed no robber baron ancestry, but was a poor devil who evidently did not have a penny. The name of Martenszen is one of the commonest in Northern Europe and there were quite a number of Martenszens in the little settlement of New Amsterdam at that time. We find in the records of the Reformed Dutch Church of this period the name of many Martenszens—Adriaen, Michiel, Jan, Gysbert, Hendrick, Harmen, Arent and Pieter, and there were undoubtedly others of the name, who like Claes Martenszen, were not church members. To distinguish him from the others, Claes Marten-

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szen was known as Claes Martenszen van (from) Rosenvelt, the town in Europe he originally came from. There was no place of that name in Holland and he presumably came from the town of Rosenfield in Wurtemberg.

In New Amsterdam it was customary to distinguish people especially those from other countries than Holland, by adding to their names the place they came from originally. Thus, in the baptismal records of the Reformed Dutch Church for August 28, 1658, we find the name Hendrick Van Doesburg as parent; however, as is clear from numerous other entries, this man's name was not Van Doesburg at all, but Hendrick Hendrickszen from the town of Doesburg (Duisburg) in Germany, whose name appears as a witness at the baptism of Anna Margaret, a daughter of Claes Martenszen, on August 29, 1654. The Van Rosenvelt after the name of Claes Martenszen simply indicated that he was the Claes Martenszen from the town of Rosenvelt (Rosenfield) and not some other Claes Martenszen, this being a very commonplace name. It was only when he returned from upstate in 1679 that Nicholaes (Claes) Martenszen appears to have abandoned the common or garden name of Martenszen and became Nicolaes Rosenvelt. There was evidently some swank to Nicolaes, the younger, for, when his daughter Jannetje married the son of Abraham Janszen in November, 1699, he had his son-in-law change the very ordinary name of Janszen

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to Van der Heul, the place the Janszens originated from, just as he had changed Martenszen to Rosenvelt and afterwards to Rosevelt.

Very little is known about Claes Martenszen. He is supposed to have arrived in New Amsterdam (now New York) about 1648, but although that was just a village of shabby little dwellings nestling around the tavern, the Company's stores and St. Nicholas Church where everybody knew each other, his name is not mentioned in any of the official records of the colony. It is evident, however, that he owned no property and was very poor, as his name does not figure on any of the tax lists, nor does he ever seem to have been assessed for labor at any time, which would go to show that he had no trade. The fact of his going upstate would indicate that he was not a fisherman and, as occupations were limited in the little colony, he was probably a farmhand or a peddler. He was evidently law abiding, however, for he never appeared before the magistrates, not even for a traffic violation. It is of course no crime to have been poor, and we must give belated honor to the brave pioneer Claes Martenszen who became the progenitor of a family that gave us many worthy citizens and the great 26th President of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt.

Practically the only records we have of Claes Martenszen are those of the Reformed Dutch Church where his children were baptized. From

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these records, which go back to 1639, we see that his wife's name was Jannetje Samuels and that he had five children, the youngest of whom, Nicolaes (Claes), born on September 2, 1658, was the founder of the family fortunes. Strangely enough, there is no record whatever of Martenszen's marriage to Jannetje Samuels, or of either of them having been members of the Reformed Dutch Church, although their children were baptized there. This has led some people to suppose that they were of the Jewish religion, for baptism in the Reformed Dutch Church was the only practical way of registering births and the names of some of the people who had their children baptized there would seem to indicate that they were Jewish. It must be remembered that Jews were not welcome in the colony and were not allowed to practice their religion, and there were probably some Jews who pretended to be Protestants to avoid annoyance or persecution, just as some had pretended to be Catholics in Spain in the days of the Inquisition.

Of course it has been said that Jacob Bersimson and Jacob Aboast, were the first Jews to land in New York. They were the first who sailed openly as Jews, but there were undoubtedly many Jews who reached these shores before that time, some of them being refugees from persecution in Central Europe, of whom a considerable number had flocked to Holland about the year 1648, and Claes Martenszen and Janntje Samuels may have been

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two of these. It is quite possible, also, that they may have been Catholics or of some other denomination, for in a letter written on March 18, 1655, by Rev. John Megalopolensis, the minister of the Reformed Dutch Church in New Amsterdam, to his religious superiors in Holland he complains of members of other sects posing as Christians.

The question of President Roosevelt's Jewish ancestry was raised in March, 1935, by the editor of the Detroit Jewish Chronicle and Mr. Roosevelt quite properly replied that he did not care whether his ancestors were Catholics or Protestants or Jews as long as they were God-fearing citizens.

From the meagre information obtainable about Claes Martenszen, it appears that about 1658, after the passage in 1657 of the act restricting trades and professions to burghers, he wandered with his family up the Hudson River to Esopus (the present Kingston), where he and his wife died shortly afterwards. We find that Elsje, the eldest daughter of Claes Martenszen, was married in 1671 to Hendrick Jillise Meyer and that they came to New York to live and resided in Pearl Street. The other surviving members of the family returned to New York in 1678. As many others have done since his time and for sole good reason best known to himself, Nicolaes (Claes) Martenszen, the younger, hand changed his name to Rosenvelt during his stay up the river and, on

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his return to New York, we find him registered in December, 1679, for the first time as a church member of the Reformed Dutch Church and under the name of Claes Rosenvelt.

Nicolaes Martenszen, the younger (or Rosenvelt, as he now styled himself), apparently returned upstate soon after his marriage, for we find no record of the baptism in New Amsterdam of any of his children until January, 1691, when his daughter Elsie was christened. He had, however, at least two older daughters, for there is a record of the marriage in 1699 of his daughter Jannetje to Johannes Janszen, who was part owner of the privateer "Hunter" and who changed his name to Van der Heul.

Claes Rosenvelt entered the cloth business in New York and became a cloth bolter. On December 26, 1682, he married a girl named Heyltje Jans from Albany and in the marriage register his name is given Nicolaes Rosenvelt. He prospered and became a prominent member of the community. He was an alderman from 1698 to 1701 and again in 1715. He lived till 1742 and during his life acquired a considerable fortune for those days. Nicolaes, who had changed his name from Martenszen to Rosenvelt, now went a step further and adopted the Dutch spelling of Rosevelt. He became Nicholas Rosevelt, Esquire. To keep up with his snooty neighbors, he decided to plant a family tree of his own and, with the help

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of some unknown heraldic fakir of the time designed the Roosevelt coat of arms. This coat of arms represents a rosebush with three red roses on a silver background. The crest is a kind of feather duster consisting of three varicolored ostrich feathers and the motto is quite cynical in its humor, "Qui plantavit curabit," which is Latin for "The guy who planted this will look after it." The Roosevelts had arrived. This pedigree making was as much a business in those days as it is at present with persons of unknown or doubtful ancestry attempting to prove connection with nobility. There are of course a great many American families who can show their descent from noble or prominent families in England, Holland or other countries, but the majority of the genealogies and coats of arms have about as much basis as that of the Roosevelts or the still more comical case of the Coultharts cited by Sir Algernon Tudor Craig in a recent article in the Saturday Evening Post, where the known ancestor of the family, instead of being a Roman general, turned out to be a nit-wit farm laborer. It is a harmless foible, however, but betrays a certain snootiness that is out of keeping with American traditions.

Nicholas Rosevelt, as he now called himself, had a family of ten children. Of his four sons, Isaac died young, Nicholas married Sarah Solomons in 1710, Johannes married Hyla Sjoerts in 1708 and became the direct ancestor of Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States, and Jacobus

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married Catharina Hardenburg or Hardenbroek in 1713 and was the direct ancestor of Franklin Roosevelt, our 32nd President. At the time of his death, the family property included the Rutgers Old Farm, which extended from the present Chatham Street to the East River and later became very valuable.

Those were the days of great opportunities when Peter Minuit bought Manhattan Island for \$60 and a bottle of rum and the Roosevelt family founded by the indigent immigrant Claes Martenszen acquired wealth in real estate transactions and became influential in the local affairs of the growing town. Jacob, the younger son of Nicholas became a merchant of prominence and was active in church affairs. His son Isaac entered the sugar melting business importing raw sugar and also molasses for the manufacturing of rum. His business was badly hit by the Sugar Tax imposed by England in 1773 and this threw him into the ranks of the revolutionary party. In 1775 he was elected a member of the Provincial Congress and he served as Senator from 1786-1790. He enlisted in the 6th Company of Dutchess County militia, but does not appear to have engaged in any actual fighting. Indeed, the Roosevelts, as they now called themselves, were not a fighting race, but peaceloving people devoted to trade. At the time of the Revolutionary War there were a good many Roosevelts in the country, but only a few of the names are mentioned as having been connected

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with the revolutionary forces. One of these was Jacob, a nephew of Isaac, who was a commissary for the purchase of supplies for the revolutionary forces and served without pay, but incidentally amassed a considerable fortune.

The Roosevelts were by this time definitely capitalists and branched into the banking and money-changing business. The above-mentioned Isaac was one of the founders of the Bank of New York in 1790 and another member of the family founded in 1797 the bond and security house of Roosevelt & Son, which is in business to the present day.

This family gave us several prominent citizens, but none who ventured into the manufacturing field with the exception of Nicholas J., a son of the above-mentioned Isaac, who was associated with Robert Fulton and helped to introduce the steamboat in this country at the beginning of the century, and Milborne Lewis Roosevelt, who died 50 years ago and was an organ builder. Another member of the family worthy of mention is Robert Barnswell Roosevelt, uncle of the great Theodore, who served as Congressman, who is best remembered as being a great sportsman and fisherman, who wrote valuable works on the game fish and game birds of North America. It is a pity that he lived in the wrong generation, for had he lived in the present age when fishing has become such an important qualification for the

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presidency he might have aspired to the highest office in the land. Still another was James Henry Roosevelt, who made a fortune in real estate transactions and on his death in 1863 left \$1,000,000 for the foundation of the Roosevelt Hospital in New York, a worthy memorial.

The Roosevelts have followed the injunction of Moses and increased and multiplied, but are individually almost all engaged in trading and banking enterprises, and they still form a closely knitted clan which is financially and politically powerful. Their political prestige dates from the time of the great Theodore Roosevelt who shed such luster on the name.

CHAPTER II

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States, was born in New York City on October 27, 1852, and died at Oyster Bay on January 6, 1919. He was the son of Theodore, a glass and hardware importer, who was a son of Cornelius, one of the founders of the Chemical National Bank, and was a direct descendant in the sixth generation of the Nicholas Rosevelt who had adopted that family name. His mother was Martha Bulloch of a prominent Southern fighting family of Scotch-Irish descent, and it is undoubtedly from her that he inherited his pugnacious spirit. Of fragile health in youth, he hardened himself by living as a woodsman in Maine and coming into close contact with the so-called common people.

We all know his political record. He served as Assemblyman in New York State from 1882 to 1884 and started fighting corruption as soon as he entered legislature. In the next three years he lived on a Dakota ranch in the closest contact with the cattlemen and workers, thus entering into the life of these people and studying their problems and aspirations at first hand. He learned

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to appreciate the strenuous life, clean thinking and straight living. He returned to the political field in 1889 when President Harrison appointed him a member of the United States Civil Service Commission and, during his terms of office, more than 20,000 Government positions were added to the merit promotion system. As Police Commissioner of New York City in 1895, Theodore Roosevelt gave proof of great administrative ability and courage in fighting all kinds of corruption.

Appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy in 1897, he accomplished more for the Navy during the twelve months he held that office than had been done in the preceding decade and was largely instrumental in our Navy giving such a glorious account of itself in the Spanish-American War. He resigned in May, 1898, to organize the famous regiment of Rough Riders in the war in Cuba, and gave many proofs of his personal bravery. In 1898 he was elected Governor of New York State and during his two-year tenure of office put through many important reforms, introducing the merit system of promotion and also legislation for the purity of food products, the better protection of workers and for forest and game preservation.

Elected Vice-President in 1900, he became President of the United States on the assassination of McKinley in 1901 and was re-elected in 1904. During his seven-year term of office he placed the United States firmly on the map as a

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great World Power with predominating influence in the Western Hemisphere. However, he used the new great prestige acquired by this country in the cause of peace and his clever negotiations brought an early end to the Russo-Japanese War and earned for him the coveted Nobel Peace Prize. He displayed exceptional skill and daring in accomplishing the formation of the Republic of Panama and the construction of the Panama Canal, which is so vital to our commerce and our defences, and this will always remain a memorial to his vision and genius. It is in domestic legislation, however, that he displayed his greatest energy and talents. Always a foe of greed and corruption, he fought manfully and persistently against abuses of all kinds, curbing corrupt practices and restraining the powers of great corporations and combinations of capital.

A man of boundless energy, he hunted big game in Africa after leaving the Presidency and, on his return to America in 1910 after being honored by all the great European nations, he had a triumphal reception. He had become a national idol, a true representative of the American character, clean, sincere and vigorous. Of course he had his little foibles, but this only made him all the more human and lovable. His personal appeal was tremendous. Even in 1912 when Theodore Roosevelt ran for the presidency on the Progressive ticket, he polled 25 per cent. more votes than the Republican organization candidate.

CHAPTER III.

THE NAME OF ROOSEVELT

We have read in our history books of great European dynasties, the Hapsburgs, the Bourbons, the Hohenzollerns, which originated with some little robber baron who gradually extended his power and authority and became the ruler of a kingdom, thereafter lending such a prestige to the family name that bearers of it became automatically eligible for the highest positions no matter how imbecile or incapable they personally might be. Through the adulation of dumb hero worshippers these ruling families soon began to consider themselves of a different species and far removed from the common herd, but they eventually became emasculated through intermarriage and their own inherent putridness. In some cases they were supplanted by adventurers like Napoleon who attempted to establish dynasties of their own.

This great republic of ours, the U. S. A., has luckily been free from such attempts. We have of course the houses of Astor, Vanderbilt, Morgan, Whitney, Ford and others which have acquired great wealth and prominence, but which have never directly affected or attempt to affect

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the destinies of the nation. With the coming of Theodore Roosevelt, however, a new name blazed across the political horizon. It looked good and it sounded good, and the man who bore it to prominence became dear to American hearts because he typified the best ideals of the American citizen. He was brave, frank, strenuous, intelligent, a leader among men and an uncompromising enemy of hypocrisy and wrongdoing. The name Roosevelt became one to conjure with, but commercially also to take advantage of. There is not a city in these United States that has not its Roosevelt hotels, restaurants, garages, laundries, etc., etc.

Unfortunately, however, it also became a name for putrid politicians to gamble with. Within the last 20 years some of the highest positions in the nation have been held by individuals who had no other merit than the name of Roosevelt. Thus, for example, within the last 20 years no fewer than five different Roosevelts, all of them men of extreme mediocrity, have held the all-important office of Assistant Secretary of the Navy, on which the defense and safety of this great nation depends.

We are living in an age of flukeyism and hero worship, utterly alien to the true American spirit. Taking advantage of this collective mental aberration, skillful press agent work put over on the American public in 1928 the great legend of the "humanitarian" Hoover, and this individual was

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elected to the highest office in the land. His administration, however, was such a colossal failure that it became evident that a wooden Indian could defeat him for re-election. His political opponents did not trouble to dig up that wooden Indian. Against the legendary Hoover they set up a mythical Roosevelt; not a man, but a name; not a personage, but an ideal, the name that suggested the good neighbor, the castigator of money changers, the friend of the forgotten man. We turned out in our millions and voted for the name of Roosevelt.

Mr. Roosevelt was elected by ballyhoo, and the ballyhoo still persist. We cannot open a newspaper without reading of what Mr. Roosevelt has done or undone, of what new alphabetical or economic game he has sponsored or abandoned. Turn to the sporting page and we find Mr. Roosevelt catching fish. On perusing the advertising columns, we find some other member of the family endorsing breakfast food or toothpicks; in the Mother's column, they tell us all about the care of babies. If we glance at the Court records, we are apt to find one of them in the divorce or traffic court. Go to the movies and you find Mr. Roosevelt smiling encouragement to us in our misfortunes, or, maybe, laughing at us. Turn on the radio and we hear Mr. Roosevelt's voice blathering platitudes like a parson on vacation. The Roosevelts are everywhere; they are in our food; they are in our hair. The nation is being run to blazes in the name of Roosevelt.

CHAPTER IV.

THE SONS OF THEODORE

Theodore Jr., the eldest son, who is now Chairman of the Board of the American Express Company, was born in 1887. With no significant qualification other than the name of Roosevelt, made illustrious by his father, he became Assistant Secretary of the Navy in 1921, Governor of Puerto Rico in 1929-1932, and Governor General of the Philippines in 1932-1933. He was, however, a brave soldier and served in the World War creditably, earning the rank of Colonel. In 1924 he ran for the Governorship of New York on the Republican ticket and polled more than 1,500,000 votes, of which it is estimated that fully half a million were cast, not for the man, but for the name of Roosevelt.

Of the other sons of the great Theodore, Kermit has given many proofs of his endurance and daring as a hunter of big game in out of the way parts of the world. He and his brother Archibald, however, are best known as directors of the Roosevelt Steamship Company, and the facility with which they manage to obtain subsidies from the Federal Government, which is apparently under the spell of the name and cannot refuse any-

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thing to a Roosevelt. Quentin, the youngest son of Theodore, has become a national hero, being one of the first to give his life in the World War for the principles of democracy that are now being strangled under the aegis of his maverick cousin Franklin, who by a remarkable combination of circumstances, has emerged from obscurity under the management of Tammany, stole the limelight from the other branch of the family and now occupies the center of the stage.

CHAPTER V.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Prior to the 1932 presidential election campaign, the usual crowd of subservient scribblers cluttered the bookstands with propaganda of the democratic candidate, presenting him to the public as a person of extraordinary vision, intelligence and ability and endowed with all the virtues, existent and nonexistent. He has been pictured as being so intelligent that he went through a six year course in Harvard University in three years and yet found time to write sensational articles for a local college paper on such epochmaking subjects as fire hazards in the dormitories; in later life he has been presented to us as an uncompromising and successful foe of political bosses and the money interests. This exaggeration and flattery has overshot the mark by leading many people to look on Mr. Roosevelt as a kind of superman from whom they might expect extraordinary accomplishments. Let us look at the record.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd President of the United States was born at the family estate at Hyde Park, N. Y., on January 30, 1882. He was the son of James Roosevelt, who was a prominent banker and financier, one of the incorporators of

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the City Trust Company and a trustee of Farmers Loan & Trust Company, vice-president of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad Company and a director of many other corporations, one of our modern capitalists. On his father's side he is a direct descendant in the eighth generation of Claes Martenszen, a poor immigrant who came to New York about 1648, and on his mother's side of Abraham De-Lanoy, one of our first saloonkeepers, who arrived about the same time. The family tree was planted by Nicolaes, son of Claes Martenszen, who adopted the name of Rosenvelt, afterwards changed to Rosevelt and later on to Roosevelt. There is an admixture of English blood through Rebecca Aspinwall, the wife of President Roosevelt's grandfather Isaac, of Swedish through Cornelia Hoffman, the wife of this Isaac's grandfather Isaac, and of German through Catharina Hardenberg, the wife of the elder Isaac's father Jacob. The family thus shows strains of Dutch, German, Swedish and English blood with a probable admixture of Jewish, and is just about as mongrel as can be, using this word in the best sense.

As we have seen, Jacob, the founder of this branch of the Roosevelt family, was a well-to-do merchant 200 years ago. His son Isaac became a banker and his descendants also engaged in this business, the President's father James having been a prominent financier, and Franklin Roosevelt himself has been director of a bank before

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ever holding public office and also subsequently as well.

Franklin Roosevelt's great grandfather acquired an estate of 500 acres at Krum Elbow on the Hudson and the family settled there. This property was increased to 1,000 acres by his grandfather Isaac and was given the pretentious name of Hyde Park. The Roosevelts had now become landed gentry, several steps ahead of the common herd, and lived in feudal baronial style in their mansion, shielded by their coat of arms. They had been members of the Reformed Dutch Church, but this low church form of religion was too common for them and they became high church Episcopalians. They did not speak to everybody, the "good neighbor" did not exist in those days.

The boy Franklin who had such a precious heritage of ancestry and wealth had to be shielded from contact with common boys. He was not sent to the little red school house or other public school, but was educated by private governesses and tutors. Thus, in the formative years of his character, he quite naturally grew up to be snobbish, living as he was in a world quite apart where his every whim was gratified. According to his mother, his favorite reading as a boy consisted of Hawthorne's *Wonder Book* and *Tanglewood Tales*, and he also evidently came under the spell of "Alice in Wonderland," if we are to judge from

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

the extensive quotations he has made from this fanciful work in some of his writings.

Although young Franklin had the advantage of private tuition, he appears to have been rather backward, for he was nearly 15 years old when he entered the Croton Preparatory School for Boys, a very exclusive institution, where the entrance age was generally about 12. In 1910 Franklin Roosevelt went to Harvard where he took his A.B. degree with the class of 1904, but did not display any unusual intellectual ability. Professor Bliss Parry of Harvard, when questioned on the subject a few years ago, stated: "My impression is that while Roosevelt was an agreeable student, he made no mark here is an undergraduate."

On leaving Harvard, Franklin Roosevelt was already a very wealthy young man. His father had died a few years before and he had also inherited considerable property from a relative. He was tall, well-developed and rather good looking, and was proficient in genteel games such as rowing, tennis and croquet. Lucky born, he started life with all the advantages.

Like his father before him, he decided to take up the study of law. In 1904 he entered the Columbia Law School and qualified in 1907. He was then 25, an age when most young men are well started on the road of life and men of ability have already made their mark in the world. At that age George Washington had been a success-

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ful farmer, surveyor and soldier. Napoleon a general in a strange country, and in modern times, at the age of 25, the barefoot and uneducated Mussolini had become a newspaper editor and a political power, and even the poor orphan Hoover had vision to high position.

Franklin Roosevelt does not seem to have had the acuteness of mind or persistence necessary for success as a lawyer. He is not known to have ever pleaded a case, and the only instance of his ability that a sycophant biographer could adduce is that he once settled a Municipal Court case out of court for \$35.00. (This Man Roosevelt by L. Looker.) As he himself has written: "I am afraid I then formed the habit of trying my hand at the avocations of life which have always interested me more than specializing in a profession." (Report by Roosevelt to his secretary of Harvard college class in 1928.).

He wanted to "try his hand" as something else and he turned to politics.

AS STATE SENATOR

As squire of the great Hyde Park estate, Mr. Roosevelt had considerable local influence, and was besides a regular member of the Rescue Hook and Ladder Company of Dutchess County. His father has been a democrat and a class friend of Grover Cleveland, and in 1910 Franklin angled for the nomination as candidate for the State Sena-

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torship for his local district which included Dutchess, Columbia and Putnam counties. At that time the New York State Senate was completely dominated by Tammany Hall and Tammany Hall was ruled by Boss Murphy. Murphy had not the habit of giving nominations for State Senatorship for nothing, especially to unknown and untried young men, and the local Republican forces hinted that Roosevelt became eligible as candidate only after making a very large contribution to the Wigwam. However that may be, he secured the Tammany endorsement and with the help of that organization, aided by his own local popularity and the magic of the name Roosevelt made famous by his illustrious cousin Theodore, Franklin Roosevelt succeeded in defeating his Republican opponent, Schlosser, by a small majority.

Mellifluous mouthed pre-election biographers of Franklin Roosevelt have recounted time and again that he started out in the State Senate as a giant killer who brought the great Tammany leader Murphy to his knees, but this is so contrary to the truth and the facts that it may be well to recall these events of twenty-five years ago.

On going to Albany after his election, Franklin Roosevelt was surprised to find that the other Democratic Senators were not grandees like himself, but were nearly all commoners, Irish-American sons of immigrants, and that they were under strict discipline, voting as a party and taking

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their orders from Tammany. At that time U. S. Senators were nominated by the legislators of the individual States and the first important business at the new session was the nomination of a United States Senator to replace Chauncey M. Depew on the expiration of the latter's term of office. Charles Murphy, the Tammany boss, had submitted the name of William F. Sheehan of Buffalo for the vacant office. Sheehan was a prominent man and a brilliant lawyer, who had been Lieutenant Governor and National Committeeman and was first in line for the office according to all tradition. At the first vote of the joint Senate and Assembly in Albany on this important matter, Roosevelt amazed his fellow-democrats by voting against the candidate of the organization which had just sponsored and helped to elect him. He had even assembled a group of a dozen upstate members of the same mental caliber as himself and staged a filibuster to prevent Sheehan obtaining a clear majority. Day after day for ten weeks the business of the State was held up at a cost of millions of dollars, and with the Empire State deprived of a Senator in Washington, just to satisfy Roosevelt's egregious vanity. This party disloyalty could not be attributed to personal animus against Sheehan, who was a man of high standing and character, and events showed that it was based on different grounds. It gradually came to light that the old bigotry and "knownothingism" was again raising its head, for although the op-

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position to Sheehan was apparently based on the assertion that as a lawyer, he represented the "interests", it soon became evident that it was really because he was a Catholic.

This outrageous conduct of Franklin Roosevelt and his little clique was eventually put an end to by Boss Murphy who on March 29, 1911 took an early morning milk train to Albany, lined up the legislators, withdrew the name of Sheehan and substituted that of James A. O'Gorman who was not only a Catholic but a Sachem into the bargain. O'Gorman's name was submitted on the 64th ballot and he was immediately elected by a clear majority. Roosevelt's filibuster had fizzled out and only served to make him appear a ridiculous bigot.

Governor Dix had expressed alarm at the malign influence and had implied that there were extra-constitutional forces at work. But others went further and did not hesitate to point to the real reason back of Roosevelt's obstinacy and hostility to Sheehan.

"The line-up of 'hostiles' against his (Sheehan's) candidacy would indicate that the old 'know nothing' spirit has only been 'scothed,' it is not dead" (The Irish-American, January 21, 1911, p. 1).

"The Governor has said, by implication, that there are extra' constitutional forces at work. We agree with him, only we say that these

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'forces are to be found in the little gang of swollen headed thick skulled bigots who constitute a small minority of the mapority of the Legislature" (The Irish-American, March 25, 1911, p. 4).

Here is what Supreme Court Judge Daniel F. Cohalan had to say on the subject:

"We are tired of all this business. We are tired of this opposition to one of our race and religion. We have had enough of this. We have competent men, men of very great intellectuality, but this constant reiteration against one of our race and religion represent 80% of the vote of New York State. This must stop right here". (The New York Sun, April 1, 1911, p. 1).

It seems incredible that a man of such family antecedents as Franklin Roosevelt could be imbued with such fanatic intolerance, but this spirit of bigotry was even fomented in his family household, where through |a sheer coincidence no Catholics managed to find employment.

In thus making such an unpropitious start in State politics at such a cost to the taxpayers, Franklin Roosevelt gave evidence of that mental instability and unreliability which has characterized him since his occupancy of the White House and made many wonder whether he is "all there." But this is only the spoiled child complex, the result of his training as a boy, which

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tended to make a prig of him in his youth and explains his peculiarities in his maturity. Here are some comments of the time on that characteristic:

"You couldn't get a Democrat or Republican to bet a ticket on which Mr. Roosevelt and his insurgents will do to-morrow. Without the slightest exaggeration they have changed their attitude more times than the average man has hair on his head. Last night up to the very latest hour they declared that they will never enter a joint caucus of Democrats. They wouldn't do this and they wouldn't do that and they would do this and they would do that, and so on and so forth" (The New York Sun, March 31, 1911, p. 1).

Floor leader Al Smith speaking:

"Here we are every Democrat, everybody can come in and hear us deliberate on this important matter. And you want to have us believe that we are 'drifting.' Why, only the man who sulks behind the door with his hand to his ear, who waits to hear what this open caucus has done, is the individual who is drifting. He is concededly the one who is putting the Democratic party in an unwelcome position before the people of the State" (The New York Sun, March 29, 1911, p. 2).

Thus Franklin Roosevelt's entry into politics had not been very auspicious. He had stubbed his

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toe very badly and discredited himself with the party organization. He needed guidance, and he was lucky to find it. In 1911 he acquired the services, as secretary, of Louis McHenry Howe, a newspaper man, who realized the possibilities of exploiting the name of Roosevelt and became his political mentor and man Friday. He lived in the home of Mr. Roosevelt, accompanied him everywhere and did most of his thinking for the next 25 years.

Roosevelt now ate humble pie, became a regular, and voted solidly with the Sullivans from the Bowery and the other Tammany Senators on all occasions except a couple of times when he showed his independence, or whatever you like to call it, in voting against an act to incorporate the World Bible League and an Act to Amend the Public Health Law in relation to the practice of pharmacy. He was made Chairman of the Forest, Fish and Game Committee and was an active member of the Senate, regularly attending the meetings and introducing or sponsoring a considerable number of bills, but, strangely enough, none that related to improvement of working conditions or to social welfare or to amelioration of the lot of human underdogs or forgotten men, but a great many for the protection of hares, rabbits, quail, and even Mongolian ring-necked pheasants, skunks and suckers. Here are the titles of a few of them "An act to amend the Forest, Fish and Game Law, in relation to skunk farms"; An Act

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to amend the Forest, Fish and Game Law, in relation to the taking of Mongolian ring-necked or other pheasants"; An act to amend the Forest, Fish and Game Law, in relation to hooking suckers through the ice in Ulster county".

This work was no doubt highly desirable, but it was puny and parochial and could have been efficiently dealt with by any boondogger; besides, it was futile in the extreme, for all the valiant labor went for nothing, as it was thrown into the waste basket some few years later when the conservation laws were amended during the progressive governorship of Alfred E. Smith.

Franklin Roosevelt was re-elected to the State Senate under Tammany auspices in 1912, but he contributed nothing further to the gaiety or the wisdom of the nation and soon began to realize that he was a failure as a lawmaker. Fifteen years later in a communication to Edward C. Taft, he himself admitted that "three years in the State Senate proved to my satisfaction that I am not intended for a legislator". That was Mr. Roosevelt's own opinion of himself just before he was elected Governor of the State of New York in 1928.

AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

He would "try his hand" at something else. Fortune favored him. Louis Howe had been following the spectacular career of the New Jersey Governor Woodrow Wilson and, when the latter

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became a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency, he had Roosevelt climb on the Wilson bandwagon. Many still remember the drama of the 1912 Democratic Convention at Baltimore, when Champ Clark was blocked from obtaining the required two-thirds majority, and when New York swung into line for Wilson and Boss Murphy thrust the New York standard into the hands of Franklin Roosevelt and had him lead the parade. This incident gave Franklin Roosevelt an enormous amount of publicity. Wilson's election was due to the Republican vote being split by Theodore Roosevelt on the Bull Moose ticket, and Wilson, appreciating the political value of having one of the name of Roosevelt in his administration, rewarded Franklin by appointing him in March 1913 to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy, a post that the great Theodore had held for a year with such conspicuous success. Unfortunately for all of us, however, Franklin Roosevelt had not sufficient executive or business experience, not to mention ability, for such a responsible position.

Louis Howe had foresight enough to have Franklin Roosevelt climb on the Wilson bandwagon in 1911 and on being elected President, Wilson had realized from the huge personal vote cast for Theodore Roosevelt that there was a tremendous appeal in the name Roosevelt and he appointed Franklin Roosevelt to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy, a post that the great Theodore

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had occupied for a year with such conspicuous success. As we know, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy is the actual executive of that department on which the safety and defence of this country depends.

Franklin Roosevelt held this position from March, 1913, until 1921. On April, 1917, when the United States entered the World War, he had held that job for over four years and the war had been in progress for two years and eight months, and yet the Senate Naval Investigation, held in 1920, in the report issued on July 1, 1921, showed that from the navy's own statistics—

“That not more than one-third of the vessels of the Fleet were in full material condition for war service on April 6, 1917, and that it then took from two to six months to put the balance of the Fleet in such condition. These same statistics show that little more than one-tenth of the vessels of the Fleet were fully manned when the United States entered the war, and that it was not until nine months later that all of the remaining nine-tenths of the Fleet could be fully manned, even with a partially trained personnel; that, in short, it does not appear that in any important respect, with the possible exception of the capital ships of the first line battle fleet, the Navy was adequately prepared for war, and that virtually all of the witnesses agree that the Navy was far from ready for war in April, 1917.”

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This certainly indicates a woeful lack of executive capacity. We can imagine what Theodore Roosevelt would have accomplished under such circumstances. And we can just think of the lives that were sacrificed through our lack of effective preparation. Admiral Sims, for whose appointment Mr. Roosevelt took credit, has himself said so:

“This attitude in Washington greatly slowed the sending of the necessary assistance and necessarily resulted in prolonging the war”. (Extract from letter of Admiral Sims to Secretary of Navy, January 7, 1920).

During his tenure of this important office Franklin Roosevelt displayed great lack of tact in selecting as navy commander in European waters the Canadian-born Admiral Sims, who, although he was a mighty good commander, had shocked and offended the American people in a speech he made in the Guildhall in London on December 3, 1910, and in which he said that blood was thicker than water and that, in case of war, England could count on America for every man, every dollar, every ship and every drop of blood. For this speech he had been reprimanded by Secretary of the Navy Meyer of the Taft Administration.

Although Franklin Roosevelt publicly boasted in a speech on February 1, 1920, that he was the man who had picked Sims, thus seriously hurting the feelings of the citizens of this country of

AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Irish origin, he failed to give the gallant admiral the support he required in such arduous circumstances and thus humiliated and embarrassed the American command. The Naval Investigation report above referred to goes on to state:

“We find that Rear Admiral Sims was not kept properly advised as to the policy of the department or as to the forces being sent him, that his requests for forces which were available were not acceded to as readily as they might have been, that his requests remained long unanswered, and that he was not provided with an adequate staff to carry out his important duties. Rear Admiral Sims’ requests for battleships were not acceded to until after a delay of more than 8 months, for submarines until after a delay of 6 months.

We find that this general lack of support on the part of the Navy Department, in view of the fact that Rear Admiral Sims was our Commander in European waters and the representatives of our Navy Department at the allied headquarters in London, and therefore largely responsible for proposing and carrying out with the allied naval forces all the measure of American naval co-operation in European waters, greatly embarrassed and delayed his negotiations with the allied naval commanders.”

This is confirmed by Mr. Roosevelt’s own hand-picked admiral himself:

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RECOMMENDATIONS OF MAJORITY REPORT.

Commissions on Naval Lessons of the War.

The report further recommends appointment of a "Commission on reorganization of the Navy Department." During the investigation, the report states, most of the witnesses indicated a belief that the organization and methods under which the Navy is administered and operated are more or less faulty and many of the witnesses were specific in their criticisms to this effect. Notable among these were Admirals Benson, Mayo, Fiske and Fullam, and Captain Pratt, who was Assistant Chief of Naval Operations during the war. The report quotes Admiral Mayo's testimony in part as giving a particularly lucid statement showing the need for a better coordination of the Navy Department bureaus, and his conclusion that delay in preparation for war "did no doubt delay our assistance to the Allies at a critical time;

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“In a word, it would hardly be possible to conceive of a more complete misunderstanding by the Department of the actual situation that confronted me on the other side, particularly during the critical period of the war” (Extract from letter of Admiral Sims to Secretary of Navy, January 7, 1920).

We generally judge a man's character from the way in which he meets great moral issues. Such an issue arose while Franklin Roosevelt was Assistant Secretary of the Navy. We refer to the Newport Vice Scandal. One of the more important naval training schools during the war was located at Newport, R. I. The discipline became very lax and it was found that the practice of abnormal sexual vice was widespread. On written instructions from Franklin Roosevelt, innocent young boys were employed as stool pigeons to track down the offenders, thus initiating them into the vilest form of vice. As a result of the disclosures by the Newport clergy and the Providence Journal, investigations were held and a large number of offenders dismissed from the service. On orders from Franklin Roosevelt, some of them given in writing, at least 83 of these offenders were reinstated, enough to corrupt the whole fleet.

Mr. Roosevelt attempted to gloss over the vile matter by suggesting that these prison “graduates” were welcomed in the fleet, but this drew

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NEWPORT VICE INVESTIGATION REPORT.

The sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs which was directed in January, 1920, to investigate alleged immoral and vicious practices at the naval training station at Newport, R.I., made public its report on July 19, the document proving to be a severe criticism of former Secretary of the Navy Daniels and former Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt. The report covers thirty-seven pages, and after relating the history of the origin of the matter quotes seven allegations made by the Providence (R.I.) Journal in connection with alleged immoral conditions existing at Newport and the then existing practice in the Naval Service of securing evidence in regard to them. To each allegation the report adds pertinent facts drawn from the testimony given before the Foster court of inquiry and the Dunn court of inquiry. This is followed by a "Summarization of Investigation" and the conclusions of the sub-committee. These are that "immoral and lewd acts were practiced under instructions by a number of the enlisted personnel of the U.S. Navy, in and out of uniform, for the purpose of securing evidence against sexual perverts, and authorization for the use of these enlisted men as operators or detectives was given both orally and in writing to Lieut. E. M. Hudson, M.C., U.S.N., by Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt, with the knowledge and consent of Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy." That "such orders, instructions or suggestions could have been given, express or implied, in any manner, for any cause, by a commissioned or petty officer of the U.S. Navy is most reprehensible and beyond comprehension." That "Secretary Daniels or Assistant Secretary Franklin D. Roosevelt should have allowed enlisted men to be placed in a position where such acts were even liable to occur is, in the opinion of this committee, a most deplorable, disgraceful and unnatural proceeding."

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from Capt. J. K. Taussig, U. S. N., now one of our best admirals, the following spirited reply in a letter to the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal, of which the following is an extract:

“Destroyer commanders have, in the past, been willing to do their share in rehabilitating a reasonable number of prison graduates who have been convicted of purely military offences, especially as formerly they were not called on to do this unless the offenders showed real promise of being amenable to redemption. But with the large number of graduates recently returned to the Service, having among them not only men who have been convicted of military offences but also men who have been convicted of offences involving moral turpitude, such as sodomy and theft, I can assure you that these destroyer commanders shudder when they receive these drafts on board their ships. They shudder not because they are called on to ‘bring back’ a man who is down and out, but because of the very bad influence, both in morals and morale, that the presence of these men on board ship has on the rest of the crew. The good men on the ships must of necessity, owing to the intimate way of living on board and the requirements of working in the same confined spaces, associate to a more or less extent with these moral perverts, and thereby be exposed to contamination.

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It is generally agreed that it is a laudatory thing to attempt the redemption of a man who has fallen. But the place to do it is not on board ship where the criminal is brought into such close contact with the members of the crew, most of whom are mere youths and thereby susceptible to unusual influences.

In the redemption of an individual we should not permit the degradation of the Navy."

When Mr. Roosevelt was charged in the Providence Journal with having given orders, some of them in writing and over his own signature, for the reinstatement of some of these criminals, the files of the Navy Department referring to the matter conveniently disappeared. The Providence Journal charged Franklin Roosevelt with abstracting these files, which is a criminal offense under Section 129 of the Criminal Code of the United States. Mr. Roosevelt denied the charges, of course, but Mr. J. R. Rathom, editor of the Providence Journal, repeated them. In a letter he addressed to Mr. Roosevelt under date of October 22, 1920, Mr. Rathom stated among other things:

"In the city of Portland, Ore., a few weeks ago you publicly denied the charge previously made by the Providence Journal that you had destroyed or sequestered naval records. This charge was true and you know it to be true. It would be interesting to every officer in the Bureau of Navigation and the public generally, to

ASSAILS ROOSEVELT ON NAVAL SCANDAL

Rathom Charges He Returned
to Honorable Duty 83 Men
Convicted of Crime.

STORY PREVIOUSLY DENIED

Thomas Mott Osborne's Manage-
ment of Portsmouth Naval
Prison Also Denounced.

Charges that Franklin D. Roosevelt, Democratic nominee for Vice President, while Assistant Secretary of the Navy, had personally sought to return men who had been convicted of unnatural crimes from the Portsmouth Naval Prison to active service are made in a letter to Mr. Roosevelt from John R. Rathom, editor of The Providence Journal, made public yesterday by the Republican National Committee.

This charge, with the additional charge that he had sequestered or destroyed Navy Department records and that he and Thomas Mott Osborne, warden of the Portsmouth prison, had "white-washed and covered up" the conditions there, has been made before during the campaign, but has been denied by Mr. Roosevelt. Mr. Rathom asserted that under Mr. Osborne discipline at the Portsmouth prison became a "joke," and said that had the plan been to carry out a deliberate design to corrupt and demoralize the personnel of the navy no system more likely to achieve that purpose could have been imagined.

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learn the truth concerning the disappearance of the papers in the Parker case, especially that portion of the record which contained the specimen of your own handwriting permitting Parker to re-enlist. You sent to the Bureau of Navigation for those papers. They were abstracted from the files by your personal order and they have never been returned to the files.

They were abstracted in January of this year, during your controversy, in the Army and Navy Journal, with Captain J. K. Taussig, U. S. Navy, in connection with the charge that you had returned active service men who had been convicted of crimes involving moral turpitude so-called 'graduates' of the Navy Prison at Portsmouth. With these documents so abstracted you felt it quite safe to deliberately falsify the facts and print, over your own signature, during that controversy, what you knew to be a deliberate falsehood."

Mr. Roosevelt was at that time, very significantly, the Vice-Presidential candidate on the Democratic ticket and a desperate attempt was made to becloud the issue by having District Attorney Caffey of New York make quite an unwarranted attack on Mr. Rathom in connection with an entirely different matter. However, Mr. Rathom stood by his charges and, to save his face, Mr. Roosevelt had no option but to institute a libel action against Mr. Rathom. The charges, however, have never been publicly refuted. They still

RATHOM STANDS BY CHARGE.

Denies He Wrote Letter to Avoid Appearing Before Grand Jury.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Oct. 26.--The Providence Journal tomorrow will print in full the letter sent by Mr. Rathom to Attorney General Gregory, which was made public in New York last night by District Attorney Cassey. This letter is accompanied by the following comment from Mr. Rathom:

"Mr. Cassey's attack on me is an attempt to turn public attention from the charges brought by me against Franklin D. Roosevelt in connection with his record as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, which charges stand as I made them. The only conceivable motive for this extraordinary and unparalleled attack at this time by one of the most powerful departments of the Government of the United States, is the desire to get in some petty political advantage on the eve of a Presidential election.

"The characterization of this letter as a confession is entirely unfounded, and is proved false by the language of the letter itself, to a careful reading of which I invite public attention.

"The statement that the letter was written by me to avoid appearance before a Grand Jury is a falsehood. I acceded to the request for such a communication because I desired to protect hundreds of loyal citizens who had constantly given us very important information. Neither in the letter nor subsequently have I disclosed more than a very few of the resources of our information, and those which I disclosed were known to the Government before I wrote the letter.

"The contemptible effort to make it appear that the few entirely superficial matters touched on by this letter in any way affect the character or volume of the work accomplished by The Providence Journal during the war is worthy of its source. I will present to the public on Saturday, through the columns of The Providence Journal, a statement with regard to this entire matter which will show something of the record made by this newspaper in connection with its anti-German activities, the exact status of its loyal and helpful association with almost every department of the Government and the innumerable occasions on which this helpfulness has been gratefully acknowledged, in some cases by the very men who have attempted, by attacking me, to besmirch the reputation of The Journal."

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stand. It may be that a man of Mr. Roosevelt's peculiar mentality considered himself above the law, for, in a speech he made only a few months previously in the Brooklyn Academy of Music on February 1, 1920, he admitted that, while Assistant Secretary of the Navy, he had committed enough illegal acts to put him in jail for 999 years. The levity and flippancy of such a remark from a responsible federal official must be appalling to law-abiding citizens.

Meanwhile the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs had held an investigation into these practices at Newport and its sub-committee published on July 19, 1921, an extensive report of 37 pages with the following findings:

"That immoral and lewd acts were practiced under instructions by a number of the enlisted personnel of the U. S. Navy, in and out of uniform for the purpose of securing evidence against sexual perverts, and authorization for the use of these enlisted men as operators or detectives was given both orally and in writing to Lieutenant G. M. Hudson, M. C., U. S. N., by Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt, with the knowledge and consent of Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy.

That such orders, instructions or suggestions would have been given, express or implied, in any maner, for any cause, by a commissioned or

AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

BROKE LAW FOR NAVY P. D. ROOSEVELT SAYS

Committed Enough Illegal Acts
to Put Him in Jail for 999
Years, He Adds.

DIDN'T WAIT FOR CONGRESS

Tells Brooklyn Audience He Was
Man That Picked Sims for
British Task

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petty officer of the U. S. Navy is most reprehensible and beyond comprehension.

That Secretary Daniels or Assistant Secretary Franklin D. Roosevelt should have allowed enlisted men to be placed in a position where such acts were even liable to occur is, in the opinion of the committee, a most deplorable, disgraceful and unnatural proceeding."

When this report was issued Franklin Roosevelt charged that Senator Ball, chairman of the sub-committee, had not given him a chance of appearing before the sub-committee, but Senator Ball promptly denied this.

The words used in the report are very strong, but the dictionary has its limitations in a filthy case like that. It is hard to imagine how any decent-minded or sane man could have acted as Franklin Roosevelt did. Just think how Theodore Roosevelt would have acted under such circumstances. He would rather see the navy scrapped than that this infamy should exist among our youth, the bestiality for which Almighty God had destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.

AS CANDIDATE FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

Franklin Roosevelt resigned as Assistant Secretary of the Navy in 1920 on accepting the nomination as candidate for the Vice-Presidency on the Democratic ticket with Cox. He had been

AS CANDIDATE FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

nominated solely in the belief that the famous name of Roosevelt would lend strength to the ticket. Indeed, he himself had not expected the nomination. To use his own words, he was "wholly unexpectedly injected" into the campaign. The voters of 1920, however, cast their ballots on issues, and not on personalities as in the 1932 election, and Cox and Roosevelt were snowed under by a popular vote of almost 2 to 1.

In that campaign Franklin Roosevelt displayed remarkable energy, delivering hundreds of speeches throughout the country but without making much impression on the voters. He was then in the full vigor of manhood, yet he suffered by contrast with the great Roosevelt.

In that fall of 1920 we also had a depression and there were millions of workers out of employment, plugging along without spoonfeeding or boondoggling, yet the good neighbor had never a word for those forgotten men. Most of his speeches were pleas for adherence to the League of Nations, with an occasional lambusting of the Republicans' waste and extravagance. Many of his addresses were marked by violent and intemperate language. In a speech delivered in Milwaukee on August 12, 1920, he denounced the opponents of the plan to our joining the "League of Nations" as a handful of crooks"; "I hate to fight crooks", he added. (New York Times, August 13, 1920, page 3, column 4).

THE HOUSE OF ROOSEVELT

Within a few months of the Senate Naval investigation report, Franklin Roosevelt was stricken with infantile paralysis in very violent form and his legs became permanently paralyzed and atrophied. Fortunately, as he was a wealthy man and had the best medical talent available, so that by suturing of the muscles and armoring of the bones he became able to walk a little in a horizontal direction with the aid of braces. As there is no recovery from this terrible ailment owing to the degeneration of the nerves and muscles, Roosevelt was condemned to be a permanent cripple.

There has been a lot of hush-hush in connection with Mr. Roosevelt's infirmity; however, it is due to the American public to know the true physical condition of their chief executive and commander-in-chief of the army and navy.

In 1931 a rather ambiguous report was issued by three physicians who examined him prior to the presidential election campaign, but we know what value is to be attached to medical reports issued under such circumstances. In this report, after certifying that Mr. Roosevelt's lungs and spine were in excellent condition, the learned doctors went on to state:

"Ten years ago Governor Roosevelt suffered an attack of acute infantile paralysis, the entire effect of which was expended on the muscles of his lower extremities.. There has

AS AN INVALID

been progressive recovery of power in the legs since that date; this restoration continues and will continue. Governor Roosevelt can walk all necessary distances and can maintain all necessary position without fatigue. We believe his powers of endurance are such as to allow him to meet all demands of public life."

The learned doctors said nothing about the atrophy of the muscles, fibres, bones, vessels and even nerves which, unhappily, makes recovery impossible. Every qualified physician knows that, and anyone who certifies differently is a charlatan. The seriousness of Mr. Roosevelt's physical condition is reflected in the insurance rate quoted against his total disability, this being at present about 13%, which is approximately that of a man 70 years of age.

This physical condition can be ascertained from the work on infantile paralysis by Dr. Paul Duhem, the celebrated French expert, who writes regarding chronic cases:

"In autopsies performed on old infantile paralysis patients, several years after the beginning, the appearance of the lesions is completely different.

In place of the inflammatory seats of the disease of pink appearance that we observed at the beginning, we find smaller zones of translucent appearance. Every sign of inflammation

THE HOUSE OF ROOSEVELT

has disappeared and we only find instead a network of more or less compact neurologic tissue in which cells and nervous fibres have completely disappeared. * * *

The corresponding half of the marrow where the lesions are located is atrophied to a considerable degree and this atrophy is not confined to the grey substance, but likewise extends to the parts of the white substance, both those in front and to the sides, which are adjacent to the front cornea. We have seen above the reason for this phenomenon.

The opposite half of the hemisphere of the brain cerebrum is likewise diminished in volume. This cerebral atrophy seems to be of a centripetal nature like that produced after amputation of a limb. It would seem to be due to a lack of development of the hemisphere on the side opposite the medullary lesion owing to the complete lack of functioning, and the profound nutritive troubles of the paralyzed limbs (Probst) * * *

The same kind of lesions can be met with in the bulb at the height of the nuclei of origin of the nerves of the skull, and in general in all the parts of the neuraxis (brain and spinal cord) that have been affected by the original inflammation.

In the periphery of the affected limbs, we find

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alterations of the muscles, vessels, bones and nerves.

The muscles are atrophied, the striated fibres are considerably reduced in number and may have completely disappeared. It is even difficult with the microscope to discover a few fibres that have escaped destruction. All the rest of the muscle is invaded by fibro-adipose tissues which may sometimes be so abundant as to mask the real atrophy. * * *

The vessels of the paralyzed limbs always undergo a wasting that is sometimes considerable. This fact explains not only the coldness and the blue jaundice of the affected limbs, but also the stoppage of development they undergo in the chronic period of infantile paralysis.

The bones likewise share in the general wasting and we believe that this atrophy is a result of the nutritive disturbances that are caused by the wasting of the vessels and the nerves.

Finally, the mixed nerves are also diminished in volume by secondary degenerescence of the motor cylinders; the majority of authors have indeed found alongside healthy fibres empty sheaths and slender tubes in much greater numbers than in normal nerves" (Translation from "La Poliomyelite," by Dr. Paul Duhem, Paris, 1931, pp. 65-67).

THE HOUSE OF ROOSEVELT

What a terrible infirmity! Fortunately, there is no pain attached to it on account of the wastage of the nerves. We can also be glad that we are living in times of peace, for in case of conflict, even with a Bonus Army, it would be absolutely impossible for Mr. Roosevelt to perform the arduous duties of commander-in-chief.

It is said that out of evil cometh good and Mr. Roosevelt's unfortunate ailment has led to the establishment for infantile paralysis patients of the Georgian Warm Springs Foundation, in which Mr. Roosevelt took a leading part. New buildings were erected and, thanks to the munificence of Mr. and Mrs. Edsel Ford and other benefactors, the Georgian Warm Springs Foundations is fully equipped with a modern installation under the direction of competent physicians, and the thermal treatment has accomplished a lot of good in removing painful symptoms and in restoring vigor to the tissues not already atrophied by the dread disease, when accompanied by proper massages and diathermic treatment and reeducation of the muscles not yet destroyed. Mr. Roosevelt certainly deserves the greatest credit for initiating the good work.

Inspired statements have from time to time appeared in the press suggesting improvement, and even recovery, but unfortunately there can be no improvement or recovery where the tissues are wasted and dead. Luckily, Mr. Roosevelt is a

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millionaire and can have greater and more material comforts than a crippled war veteran, so that we wish him a long life in retirement where he really belongs, if only out of gratitude for the cheery words with which he gave us hope and comfort for a few brief months in 1933. We were "Looking forward" and "On our way," he told us. We fondly believed it was to better times until, disillusioned, we found that he only meant to re-election.

IN THE BONDING GAME

Luckily, the disease of infantile paralysis does not affect the intelligence and there was still capital to be made out of the name of Roosevelt, apparently not in politics, as his political career now seemed to be definitely doomed, but in business. Not a manufacturing business, which would be contrary to all the tradition of the family, but an easy money business without risk. In 1922 he lent the name of Roosevelt, made famous by his cousin Theodore, for the position of Vice-President of the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland, which controls the American Bonding Company. These concerns issue fidelity bonds for employees, bail bonds for court defendants and surety bonds for the execution of city, state and federal contracts. It is really a colossal racket, because hidden influence is brought to bear in securing business, in many cases. Mr. Roosevelt had no experience whatever in this

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game, but he had the family and political connections required and he reinforced these by his law partnership with Basil O'Connor, the brother of a Tammany Congressman. Besides, the name of Roosevelt was duly impressive and helped in producing dividends. His advent into the company was celebrated by the issue of \$2,000,000 new stock which was distributed among the existing stockholders. Of course, this business is quite legitimate, but it is not one that would have appealed to a man of the caliber of the mighty Theodore.

There was another still easier money-making game at this period and, although Franklin Roosevelt was a wealthy man, he did not pass it up. This was the business of exchanging devalued German marks for good gold-backed American dollars.

THE MONEY CHANGERS

As we all know, the great bulk of German-Americans were loyal and patriotic during the World War, but, of course, their sympathies were with the Fatherland prior to the entrance of the United States in the conflict. The Germans accordingly carried on widespread propaganda in this country to prevent the United States aligning itself with the Allies and did everything possible to prevent the purchase, manufacture and shipment of war supplies. The newspapers of the period contain numerous accounts of these activi-

THE MONEY CHANGERS

ties and of outrages committed by German agents. This is not ancient history; the Black Tom and Kingsland explosions are still being discussed before the Mixed Claims Commission.

Of course, this campaign cost a great deal of money, but where the funds came from and how they were handled remained a mystery for quite a long time. It was only in October, 1917, after the arrest in France of the notorious spy, Bolo Pacha, that District Attorney Lewis of New York uncovered their methods. It seems that the Deutsche Bank possessed over \$100,000,000 of available funds in New York and that payments were effected, on instructions from German Government agents, by means of an intricate system of cashier's checks passed through various banks. One of the German banking houses that had been used for that purpose was G. Amsinck & Company, of which Adolph Pavenstedt, the intimate friend of the German ambassador, Count von Bernstorff, was the senior partner. Pavenstedt, was a former member of another German financial house, Muller Schall & Company, of which another of the Pavenstedt family, Edmund, continued to be a partner.

After the disclosures of October, 1917, in the Bolo Pacha case, in which Adolph Pavenstedt admitted that he had been the intermediary between the German ambassador and the spy and had effected the payment of \$1,7000,000 to Bolo

JANUARY 2, 1918.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, WE

BANKING FIRM REORGANIZED

German Interests Entirely Out of
Muller, Schall & Co.

Announcement is made of the liquidation of the banking firm of Muller, Schall & Co., of 45 William Street, and the formation of the firm of William Schall & Co., at the same location, which will take over the business of the first named concern. The present partners of Muller, Schall & Co., namely, William Schall and Carl Muller, will continue as partners in the new firm, and the new members are John Hanway, formerly of Harris, Forbes & Co.; Frank M. Welty, Vice President of the American Colonial Bank of Porto Rico; and Edward S. Paine, of the law firm of Rounds, Hatch, Dillingham & Debevoise.

The change in the firm brings back to it the name it originally had when it was organized by the late William Schall, father of the present Mr. Schall, about seventy-seven years ago.

Edmund Pavenstedt, cousin of Adolph Pavenstedt, mentioned in connection with financial transactions of Count von Bernstorff, and Bolo Pacha, used to be a member of the firm of Muller, Schall & Co., but he retired some time ago. Frederick Muller-Schall, a nephew of both Mr. Schall and Mr. Muller, also recently retired from the firm, and it is understood that the interests of Messrs. Pavenstedt and Frederick Muller-Schall have been bought by Messrs. Hanway, Welty and Paine, the new members of the reorganized firm.

Mr. Pavenstedt had to retire because he is a German and Mr. Muller-Schall, although American-born and the son of an American, was advised to retire by reason of the fact that his father, who resides in Hamburg, had originally provided him with funds with which to buy an interest in the business.

Mr. Muller is an American citizen and so is Mr. Schall. The former has one son in service under the American flag and the latter has two sons. Mr. Schall is President of the Colonial Bank of Porto Rico and President of the South Porto Rico Sugar Company.

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Pacha, there was quite a stink attached to the name of Pavenstedt. The German-born Edmund Pavenstedt stepped out of Muller Schall & Company and his place was taken by E. S. Paine, a lawyer well known at the German Club, who was supposed to have purchased Pavenstedt's interest, and also represented Pavenstedt on the board of Schall, Pavenstedt & Company and other corporations of which Pavenstedt was a director. The Pavenstedts were heavily interested in Porto Rican sugar properties and owned and controlled the Central Los Canos.

This is the crowd with which Franklin Roosevelt associated early in 1922. The Schall people were prominent in the sugar business, but they now had one that was real honey. This was the money changing business, that of swapping depreciated German marks for yellow-back American dollars.

This was the period of German currency inflation. To counteract the effects of the Versailles Treaty, wipe out the internal debt and provide gold holdings abroad, the German Government had deliberately embarked on a policy of devaluation of the mark and made use of German banking houses abroad to unload the depreciated marks on the unsuspecting foreigners. They had fine selling arguments—German industry had come through the war unscathed, there was an unusual demand for manufactured goods, the

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Germans were a steady and hard-working people, etc. The mark, however, kept going down with monotonous regularity, but people who had faith in Germany continued buying on the decline to protect their previous purchases, little knowing that there was no bottom to the bucket. The numerous people of German origin in the United States were specially tempted to invest in these German marks, for they hoped for and believed in the recovery of Germany. The importation of the gaudily printed pieces of paper became a volume business, especially with the German banking houses, which always seemed to beat the official quotations. The net result was that by the year 1922, according to a report in the New York Times, \$2,000,000,000 worth of German marks had been sold in the United States at prices all the way down to one mill. This would represent trillions of marks.

By the end of 1921 the German mark had fallen to nearly half a cent. Its importation was no longer profitable, because the declines were too violent and marks purchased in Germany were already worth considerably less by the time they arrived in New York. There were, however, still a great number of people who were willing to purchase German marks as a speculation. But where to find the marks for these suckers? Why, from the suckers who already held marks in America and who would like to unload. Some bright mind conceived the idea of forming a company to sell Ger-

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**2 BILLION LOST HERE
BY COLLAPSE OF MARK**

*But American Bankers in Paris
Figure Germans Made Profit
of \$5,000,000,000.*

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man marks to the people who were willing to buy them and to invest the marks of those who already held them, thus insuring a regular supply of the paper.

This company was incorporated on May 9, 1922, no, not in the United States where we still had certain laws regarding dubious rackets, but in Canada where the Dominion Government had no blue sky laws at that time. The name of the company was "United European Investors, Limited," and the founders and first directors were Franklin D. Roosevelt, his henchman, Louis Howe, two members of the Schall crowd and three lawyers, probably as a kind of bodyguard. What could have induced Mr. Roosevelt to engage in such a venture we do not know. There is an old saying that "There is nobody so bold as a blind man," but it may have been that he was attracted by the prospect of dealing in billions and, then, again, it may have been that he looked on it as a way of making some easy money.

Anyway, United European Investors, Ltd., embarked on its career in May, 1922, under the presidency of Mr. Roosevelt, with its main office in Montreal and its field of business the Dominion of Canada and elsewhere, the "elsewhere" meaning, of course, the United States of America.

Th capital stock of the company was \$60,000 in Canadian currency and 600,000,000 German

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Reproduction of the New York Times

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1922

NEW ISSUE

600,000,000 German Marks

Divided into 60,000 Common Shares, par value 10,000 Marks each

Application will be made to increase the Common Share Capital of this company.

UNITED EUROPEAN INVESTORS, LIMITED

(Incorporated under Charter of the Dominion of Canada)

PRESIDENT

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt

Vice-President, Fidelity & Deposit Co. of Maryland

VICE PRESIDENT & CHAIRMAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

William Schell

William Schell & Co., Bankers, New York

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marks, divided into 60,000 ordinary shares of 10,000 German marks each.

The objects of the company are set forth in the charter, the first and principal one being:

“(a) To promote trade and commerce between Canada and any other country and to carry out all financial arrangements incident thereto, and to deal in foreign exchange and currency, foreign and domestic commercial paper, bills of lading and all kinds of documents of title to goods, wares and merchandise.”

Why Mr. Roosevelt and his friends should want to promote trade and commerce between Canada and any other country, they not being Canadians, we do not know. Perhaps the idea of the Canadian Reciprocity Treaty that is giving our farmers such headaches is not new after all. But they certainly had an object in wanting to deal in foreign exchange and currency. United European Investors, Ltd., accepted German marks for investment and at the same time advertised marks for sale throughout the country. Heads I win, tails you lose. One week they would sell you 100,000 marks for \$100 and the next week oblige you with the same amount for \$70 and the next for \$50 and so on ad infinitum. They gave lessons in arithmetical progression. Unfortunately, a good many of the people who parted with their yellow-backs for these nice specimens of German printing were folk in very modest circumstances and

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NEW COMPANY WILL PUT MARKS TO USE

Corporation Formed to Invest in
Germany the Depreciated Notes
Held Here and in Canada.

F. D. ROOSEVELT PRESIDENT

Plan Calls for Purchase of Real
Estate and Physical Assets to
Secure Actual Interest.

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many an attic trunk in the Middle West contains a reminder of United European Investors, Ltd.

In 1932, Senator Vandenberg of Michigan referred to Mr. Roosevelt's company as "speculating in German marks and misery," but Franklin Roosevelt as a fisherman would probably refer to it in simpler language as "catching suckers." He had at that time been a close friend of Herbert Hoover for ten years and had probably absorbed some of that gentleman's strange ideas about "idiots" who speculated with their own money. Franklin Roosevelt replied to Governor Vandenberg's charge by making public a statement from his friend, Edward S. Paine, well known in alcohol and liquor circles, who said that he was the liquidator of the United European Investors, Ltd., and that under the "wise management" of Mr. Roosevelt and his associates the enterprise made a profit for the shareholders. Mr. Paine, however, neglected to state that he was the Mr. Paine well known at the German Club who substituted as "dummy" for the German Pavenstedt in the Schall firm or that he, Mr. Paine, was himself a director of the United European Investors, Ltd., at the time of its liquidation! No good peddler will cry "stinking fish" about his own wares.

Mr. Paine, the Pavenstedt "dummy," who liquidated this company of which he was a director, also neglected to state what profits were made, and if these profits had not been made by

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the "insiders" who held the preference shares. For the United European Invertors, Ltd., had two classes of shares, the preferred for the "insiders" and the "common" for the public. A blatant advertisement appeared in the press of September 14, 1922, advertising the issue of these common shares. It emanated from the office of William Schall & Company, which was also the office of United European Investors, Ltd., and prominently displayed the name of Franklin D. Roosevelt as president, the vice-president being William Schall of the "Pavenstedt" banking firm of William Schall & Company, and the head of the advisory board in Germany was Arthur Lattman, a former partner of the "Pavenstedt" banking house, G. Amsinck & Company. The capital of the company was stated to be 600,000,000 German marks, and the shares were offered to the public at the price of 10,000 marks per share. But not a word was said in the advertisement about the existence of the 8% preference shares or what preferential rights these had. And the people who had passed on its legality were the lawyers Jenks and Rogers of New York and Andrew Haydon of Ottawa, all three of whom were themselves directors of the company.

In issuing this advertisement, the Company Laws of the Dominion of Canada, under which the company held its charter, were not complied with. These laws require that any prospectus or advertisement offering shares of a company for sub-

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scription or purchase shall be filed with the Secretary of State of Canada on or before the date of publication, that it must state the minimum subscription on which the directors may proceed to allotment and the amount payable on application and allotment, the amount or estimated amount of preliminary expenses, the amount paid within the two preceding years or intended to be paid to any promoter, the names and addresses of the auditors of the company, full particulars of the nature and extent of the interest of every director in the promotion, and the respective voting rights of the different classes of shares.

The advertisement in the New York Times contained this statement:

“The purpose of this company is to exchange its shares for German Marks held by American investors, and to invest these Marks in actual values in Germany. Carefully selected investments will be made in real estate, mortgages, securities and participation in Industrial and Commercial enterprises.”

This object, printed under the name of Franklin D. Roosevelt, sounded plausible. However it did not appear at all in the company's charter, which states as the main purpose of the company:

“(a) To promote trade and commerce between Canada and any other country and to carry out all financial arrangements incident

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thereto, and to deal in foreign exchange and currency, foreign and domestic commercial paper, bills of lading and all kinds of documents of title to goods, wares and merchandise."

The public did put its German marks into the common stock of United European Investors, Ltd., thinking that these would be invested in real estate, mortgages, securities and participation in industrial and commercial enterprises. How many hundreds of millions or billions we do not know, for the U. E. I., Ltd., carefully refrained from publishing a list of the shareholders or their holdings. On December 14, 1922, however, Mr. Roosevelt, the president, announced that the company had invested the first 100,000,000 German marks—no, not in real estate or securities as the common shareholders had been led to believe, but in 19 different stocks of German companies, which nothing in the world was more speculative at the time. As an example of the wonders the U. E. I., Ltd. were supposed to be performing in the German stock market, the New York Times of December 15, 1922, tells us that they cited the fact that on October 10th they had bought shares of the Allemeine Elektrizitaets Gesellschaft at the equivalent of \$22.88 per thousand marks, that the equivalent price of these shares on December 31, 1913, with the mark at its normal value, was \$538.20. This, of course, was untrue and pure bunco steering, evidently intended to gull other

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holders of German marks to invest them with a company that could perform such miracles. As a matter of fact, the value of 1,000 marks on October 10, 1922, was only 35 cents and the equivalent value of A. E. G. shares on that date was only 25 cents. Of course, German industrial shares were skyrocketing in prices, but the advance could not keep pace with the decline in the mark. Thus leading issues like Siemens Halske, Hirsch Copper, Mannesmann, Gelsenkirchen and Deutsch Luxemerk advanced 2,500% during 1922, but the mark declined by 3,800%, so that investors in German shares were the losers besides having no prospect of a dividend. No, there were no profits to be made in playing the German stock market, but there were still profits to be made in the sale of German marks to suckers who still believed in the recuperation of that currency. These marks could be profitably obtained only from holders who wanted to limit their losses and it was to these the advertisements appealed, as it contained a caution against further buying of German marks, although the U. E. I., Ltd., were, paradoxically and hypocritically enough, offering marks for sale at the very same time to speculators in the West.

No other reports of investments in Germany were published by the U. E. I., Ltd. This first 100,000,000 marks only represented a value of \$15,000 at that time and it would require this volume of business daily to pay the expenses of

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the Company's offices in Ottawa and New York and the cable tolls. And yet the U. E. I., Ltd., continued in business until 1927. There is no way of telling how many hundreds of millions or billions of German marks were invested in the U. E. I., Ltd., as the lists of shareholders and their holdings were not published or filed with the Secretary of State in Canada. The German mark, however, had declined so rapidly in 1922 and 1923 that, even if billions had been invested, the aggregate loss as represented by the equivalent value in American dollars would not have been staggering, but how did the U. E. I., Ltd., manage to pay 8% on the preference shares held by the "insiders" until 1927 by speculating in the German stock market and still leave a profit for the investors in the common shares? It was simply not possible. It was evidently not intended that these investors get anything for their German marks. According to the New York Times on December 15, 1922,

"Mr. Roosevelt said that it was not the intention to speculate in these stocks, and that the shares so purchased would not be sold, possibly for a long period of years, even though they showed profits over the purchase price, as some of them now do."

Indeed, it is safe to say, in the absence of proof to the contrary, that the investors of these fabulous amounts of marks in the common shares of

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the U. E. I., Ltd., lost their entire investment unless, for face-saving purposes, Mr. Roosevelt and his friends subsequently dug into their private pocket to recoup them for their losses. And there is no proof of that either.

This was a very unfortunate business from various viewpoints, and it is hard to imagine how a good neighbor like Mr. Roosevelt could have become associated with it; yet he was one of the originators and the president.

“Practices of the unscrupulous money changers stand indicted in the court of public opinion, rejected by the hearts and minds of men * * *. Stripped of the lure of profit by which they induced our people to follow on false leadership they have resorted to extortion, pleading tearfully for restored confidence. They know only rules of a generation of self-seekers, they have no vision, and where there is no vision, the people perish.”

He might have added that when they have no scruples and one hell of a nerve they succeed.

MR. ROOSEVELT AS INTERNATIONAL BANKER

Mr. Roosevelt continued in the bonding and money changing businesses. In 1923 he severed his connection with Hooker and formed a new law partnership with the Catholic Basil O'Connor, a Tammany Congressman and the present Chair-

THE MONEY CHANGERS

man of the powerful Rules Committee. This political connection resulted in some more easy money being thrown his way in the form of refereeships, which are generally very profitable. Mr. Roosevelt was aided in all these activities by his henchman Louis Howe, who occupied the same office, gave him the benefit of his shrewdness and acted as a brake in checking some of his fantasies.

Under Mr. Roosevelt's "able management," the United European Investors, Ltd. had, according to Mr. E. S. Paine, made a handsome profit for the shareholders, presumably the "insiders," from the swapping of German marks for good United States dollars. The peculiarly fantastic mentality of Mr. Roosevelt must have been fascinated with a country like Germany that could expand its currency into billions and trillions. On liquidation of United European Investors, Ltd., in 1927, he decided to become an international German banker.

In September, 1927, with some other kindred souls and under the leadership of Harold G. Aron, the mortgage man, who was then a director of the unfortunate National American Company of sad memory, he organized a new bank, the International Germanic Trust, for trading in money and securities with Germany. The shares of the new bank were issued to the public at \$170 each and \$4,000,000 worth were sold, mostly to German and Irish investors, who had faith in the name of

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Roosevelt. The International Germanic Trust was not successful and never paid a dividend. This is hardly to be wondered at, for it started out with a brain trust of only 24 directors, of whom Mr. Roosevelt was one. They may not have known much about international finance, but they certainly knew a thing or two about market manipulation. Although their business was punk, they succeeded in pushing the \$170 shares up to \$257 in 1928, only to have them collapse to 22 early in 1930. Then they transferred the assets of the bank to the International Assets Corporation, and that was that. The insiders had made their profit by manipulation and the stockholders took the loss as usual.

The market rigging methods of this crowd were shown up in the action brought in April, 1930, by Martin J. McGrath against Aron and others in connection with the price fixing of the shares of the Associated Dyeing and Printing Corporation, which was controlled by the International Germanic Co., Ltd., a subsidiary of the International Germanic Trust, and in which McGrath accused Aron of welching.

Of course, Mr. Roosevelt resigned his directorship in this bank on being elected Governor of New York, but he was one of the crowd that had started the ball rolling and, unfortunately, those who had invested in the bank backed by the sterling name of Roosevelt lost all their money, as

BUYER SUES H. G. ARON FOR DECLINE OF STOCK

***Holder Alleges Bank Head and
Others Promised to Take It
Back at Purchase Price.***

Harold G. Aron, fusion candidate for Controller at the last election, is one of the defendants in a suit filed in the Supreme Court yesterday for \$18,600 as a result of the decline in value of stock of the Associated Dyeing and Printing Corporation, by Martin J. McGrath, who alleges that he invested that sum in 600 shares of the stock and that although it is now quoted at \$3 on the New York Curb he is unable to sell it and that the investment is a total loss.

McGrath, who also sued the International Germanic Company, Ltd., Herman E. Eckhoff and Anders Jordahl as liquidating trustees of that company, and the International Assets Corporation, to which the corporation is alleged to have transferred its property for liquidation, alleges that in March, 1928, he bought the stock on a when-issued basis at \$31 a share on the promises of Mr. Aron, as president of the International Germanic Company, Ltd., and the company that he would be saved from any loss and that if requested they would repurchase the stock from him at the price he paid.

The complaint alleges that the International Germanic was promoting the stock and was manipulating the price on the exchange in connection with Eastman, Dillon & Co., and that in March, 1929, when the stock had dropped to \$25, the plaintiff wanted to sell and have the defendants make good his loss, but that Mr. Aron assured him that the company was in good condition and urged him not to sell, telling him that the International Germanic was operating a market account in the stock and that other buyers of the stock had received a similar agreement as to protection against loss.

The plaintiff says that in October last, when the stock had dropped to \$3, he again suggested selling and having his loss made good, but was advised not to do so, and that on March 14 last, when he demanded that Aron and the corporation take back his stock and pay him the \$18,600, the demand was refused. He says that February last the International Germanic accepted a proposal

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usual. Within two and one-half short years several millions of their dollars had vanished into thin air.

Of course, it can be argued that Mr. Roosevelt did not very well know what it was all about, yet this incursion of his into the field of international banking did not reflect great credit on him and did inflict a serious loss on the stockholders in the bank who lost their entire investment. And yet this was the man whom the people of New York State, under the spell of the name of Roosevelt, had voted into the Governor's chair in Albany to protect the public from rotten and swindling banking methods. We all know his record of those four years in Albany and how he forgot to remember. That period is still odorifereous with the stench of the Bank of the United States and other scandals, but Mr. Roosevelt cannot really be blamed for his failure to protect the public. He was there in Albany under contract with Tammany, and he had to obey his master's voice. And banking was evidently to him some mysterious science that he could not comprehend and does not yet understand.

"Small wonder that confidence languishes, for it thrives only on honesty, on honor, on the sacredness of obligations, on faithful protection, on unselfish performance. Without these

MR. ROOSEVELT AS INTERNATIONAL BANKER

it cannot live" (from President Roosevelt's Inaugural Address of March 4, 1933).

Comment is superfluous.

THE CAMCO

We all know what a coin slot machine is. You place a penny or a nickel or other coin in the slot and push the button or pull the lever and the mechanism operates. If it is a gum or candy vending machine, you are lucky if the damned thing works and you receive something for your coin; if it is a weighing machine, you often wonder why you gained or lost five pounds since the day before. If it is a photoscope, it stops short at the underwear; if it is a skill machine, you feel sure it is out of adjustment, but if it is a gaming machine you can positively be certain that it was specially built to cheat you. The coin slot machine business has grown to enormous proportions. Its possibilities appear limitless. Think of the millions and billions of pennies and nickels, dimes and quarters just waiting to drop into the nearest convenient slot.

Some such ideas must have coursed through Mr. Roosevelt's mind when he helped to organize the Camco. No, this is not a new Government alphabetical agency; it is the name that was applied to the Consolidated Automatic Merchandising Corporation, a holding company. Franklin Roosevelt appears to have a holy horror of hold-

THE HOUSE OF ROOSEVELT

ing companies and has denounced them and their iniquities on sundary occasions. He seems however to have forgotten the dear old Camco which he helped to organize and direct in 1928. When the nasty Republicans referred to this during the election campaign of 1932, a statement was issued by Mr. Roosevelt's friend, Henry Morgenthau, to the effect that such companies were not considered holding companies and that the concern was an actual manufacturing business and that Mr. Roosevelt was only connected with it about a month.

Of course one cannot accuse a prominent financier like Henry Morgenthau of being a liar; he simply perverted the truth.

Now, Moody's authoritative "Mannual of Investments" for 1928 tells us that the Consolidated Automatic Merchandising Corporation was incorporated in Delaware on May 29, 1928, to own at least 70% and eventually acquire all of the capital stock of General Vending Company, Sanitary Postage Service Corp., The Automatic Merchandising Corporation of America, The Schermack Corporation of America and The Remington Service Machines, Inc. The General Vending Company, in its turn, owned the Peerless Weighing Macine Co. (Me.), Peerless Weighing Machine Co. (Del.), Pacific Peerless Weighing Machine Co. (Cal.), Rhodes-Hochriem Manufacturing Co. (Ill.) and Hoff Vending Machine Corporation of Ameri-

THE CAMCO

ca (Del.). Thus the Camco was not a manufacturing business, as Mr. Morgenthau would mislead us to believe, but was a holding company for all the above concerns, besides having working arrangements with similar companies in England and Canada. Its aim was evidently to monopolize the coin slot business.

Poor's "Manual of Industrials" for 1928 informs us that the Camco was organized under the auspices of United Cigar Stores Company of America and prominent parties interested in Sanitary Postage Service Corp. Who were these prominent parties?

In 1927 Mr. Roosevelt's bonding company offices were at 120 Broadway, New York City. He had as friend and neighbor in the same building Jesse A. De Camp, a stockbroker, and with him he embarked in the coin slot business. In January, 1928, De Camp made a public offering of 6,000 no par value shares of preferred stock in the Sanitary Postage Service Corp., a concern that manufactured and operated stamp vending machines. These shares were offered at \$42 each and they carried as "come-on" bonus one common share of no par value. The advertisement offering these shares valued the assets back of each share at about \$150, so that it appeared to be an excellent speculation. The issue was successful and Franklin Roosevelt and Jesse De Camp were made directors of the Sanitary Postage Service Corporation.

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But hardly had the public put up its money when the concern was sold out to a holding company, the Consolidated Automatic Merchandising Corporation.

This holding company was organized by Schermack, Sack and Roosevelt of the Sanitary Postage people in combination with the United Cigar Stores crowd, who have since made such a wreck of that great concern, and Mr. Roosevelt became one of the directors of the holding company. At the time of its formation the Camco subsidiaries had more than 80,000 coin slot machines in operation in 50,000 locations from coast to coast. These were mostly weighing and vending machines, but the controlled companies manufactured, and some of them also dealt in, an almost complete line of coin slot machines that included almost all the types we see in stores, sportlands and penny arcades, and many that we luckily do not see any more.

The authorized capital of the Camco was 4,000,000 shares of common of no par value and 200,000 shares of preferred of no par value. The 200,000 shares of preferred were publicly offered in June, 1928, at \$55 per share and a bonus of one-half a common share was given with each preference share. This left 3,900,000 shares of common stock in the bag for the directors to play with.

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The insiders immediately began making a market for the common shares by paying the dividends on the preferred, and by the end of 1928 there were 1,693,347 common shares outstanding and quoted as high as 191½, thus representing a market value of \$33,000,000. Previous investors in Mr. Roosevelt's companies had had very poor luck and there was no exception for the Camco shareholders. They lost all or practically all their money within a few short years. Profits had fallen off in the coin slot game. There was a lot of competition in the ordinary weighing and vending machines, and the police, at the instigation of infuriated parents whose children were becoming demoralized by them, began getting after and seizing and smashing up the more profitable types that played nickles, dimes and quarters for a "jackpot," and which were mostly exploited by a very undesirable class of thugs — the so-called coin slot racket.

Mr. Roosevelt's connection with the coin slot business had not lasted more than a year. It is unfortunate, however, that he should have been instrumental in promoting such a company where the investors lost their shirts. Perhaps he shares the opinion expressed by his friend Mr. Hoover in 1912 that "capital in the hands of the Insiders is often invested to more reproductive purposes than if it had remained in the hands of the Idiots who parted with it."

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It is regrettable, however, that Mr. Roosevelt did not have the excuse of the gunman who pleaded that he only shot once. He had already had his fingers in the United European Investors and International Germanic Trust pies.

"The form of the holding company is inherently such that it lends itself to secrecy, mismanagement and fraud. * * * What chance had the small stockholder even though he knew what was happening?" ("Looking Forward," by Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1933, pp. 231, 234).

Not a Chinaman's chance.

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In the fall of 1928 Mr. Roosevelt was back in the political arena. Tammany, looking round for a suitable candidate for Governor, had picked on him to act as chairwarmer in Albany. He was a cultured gentleman who would grace the office and, judging from past experience, was likely to prove perfectly innocuous and take his orders from the Wigwam. This is exactly what happened. During his four years as Governor New York City was a sink of iniquity. It was the era of racketeering, stock swindling, bank failures, mortgage-title robbery and tin-box city officials. Governor Roosevelt did not seem to have any interest in the vile multitude of this modern Babylon. He never interfered, except when under the pressure of the Seabury investigation he made

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a feeble and belated effort in the cases of Sheriff Farley and the outrageous Mayor Walker.

However, he was playing politics. Under the guidance of Louis Howe, he had become a clever politician. It does not take a lot of brains to be a clever politician, as we can see for ourselves when we look around us, but still it is quite as much an art as that of an actor. It calls for the glad hand, the inept smile, the good-neighbor greeting, a readiness to promise and the callousness of a hippo in repudiating promises made. The innate vanity of Mr. Roosevelt had been aroused when he found that he had actually polled more votes than Al Smith in New York State in the election of 1928. He realized what a trump card he held in the name of Roosevelt and began to dream of the presidency.

It little mattered that he was under obligations to Al Smith, who had put him in Albany. Al Smith was only a political friend who had lifted him into the Governor's chair and he could have no compunction about double-crossing a man who in his aristocratic eyes was nothing but a Papist upstart. His henchman, Louis Howe, now acquired the services of another myrmidon, James Farley, who was engaged in the gypsum and building materials business and had been helped along by Al Smith in local politics. Farley had been town clerk of some little place in Rockland County when he fell into the good graces of Smith, who lifted him out of the gutter, so to speak,

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helped him to a place on the Democratic State Committee and appointed him a member of the Boxing Commission in January, 1924. Farley soon wangled himself into the chairmanship of that Commission, which had been instituted for the protection of the public from crooked practices in the boxes game. How well the public that loves to be flim-flammed was protected it is hard to say, but we do know that on March 29, 1926, Tex Rickard, the boxing promoter, sent a telegram to Jack Dempsey, the prizefighter, who was then in Los Angeles, regarding a proposed match with Tunney, in which he told Dempsey that he would have no trouble choosing his own judges or referee in New York State, which was the confidential job of Farley and his two associates. Rickard evidently knew what he was talking about.

Farley loyally followed Smith until the latter was defeated for the presidency in 1928 and Roosevelt elected Governor of New York, when he transferred his allegiance to Roosevelt, in whom he saw a pawn that he could play up for the advancement of his own fortunes. This might not be the conduct one would hope from a sportsman, but he is not to be blamed, as we cannot expect honor or honesty in politics and nothing succeeds like success.

Governor Roosevelt obligingly continued Farley as Chairman of the Boxing Commission and Farley set about building up and plastering to-

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gether a Roosevelt political machine. Farley toured the country as a gypsum salesman, keeping in touch with local political leaders and selling them the name of Roosevelt. Despite his cherubic appearance, Farley was a hairless gorilla, a strong, intelligent and ruthless political manipulator, reared in the school of political tooth and claw and thoroughly educated in the spoils system. He had the advantage of being a good salesman and in return for promises of support he gave hungry, mercenary leaders his political I.O.U's backed with the endorsement of Roosevelt. There was no hair splitting about bald Jim. He did not scruple about the price he had to pay for support, as is evidenced by the enormous amounts subsequently squandered on the big men of the silver States. Quietly and unobtrusively he builded.

The reports that came in to Hyde Park must have been promising and, being well aware of Mr. Roosevelt's limited knowledge of social and economic affairs, his law partner, "Doc" O'Connor, suggested the Brain Trust, which used to meet at Albany, to educate him a little. The Brain Trust may not have taught Mr. Roosevelt very much, but it certainly provided great fun for the nation. One can hardly forget that pot-pourri of brains—Professors Moley, Tugwell, Berle, Warren, Johnson, the "chocolate soldier" Hugh Johnson, and, as a kind of binder, the molasses king, Taussig,

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best known as the author of "Rum, Romance and Rebellion."

The Chicago Democratic Convention of 1932 is a matter of recent history. Al Smith had been waiting for the mantle of candidate to be draped again around his shoulders when he found to his surprise that it had already been tailored for a man of much smaller stature. Still he would wear it anyway, and he fought for it. In the tug of war that ensued the weight of Texas and California was thrown to Roosevelt as a result of the vice-presidency bribe dangled before Garner by Farley and Roosevelt won the nomination for the presidency. Unfortunately, he was not equipped for the position.

Walter Lippman, the well-known editorial writer, gave a very fair and rather prophetic appraisal of him months before:

"In the case of Mr. Roosevelt, it is not easy to say with certainty whether his left-wing or right-wing supporters are more deceived. The reason is that Franklin D. Roosevelt is a highly impressionable person, without a firm grasp of public affairs and without very strong convictions. He might plump for something which would shock the conservatives. There is no telling. Yet when Representative Howard of Nebraska says that he is 'the most dangerous enemy of evil influences,' New Yorkers who know the Governor know that Mr. Howard does

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not know the Governor for Franklin D. Roosevelt is an amiable man with many philanthropic impulses, but he is not the dangerous enemy of anything. He is too eager to please. The notion which seems to prevail in the West and South, that Wall Street fears him, is preposterous. Wall Street thinks he is too dry, not that he is too radical. Wall Street does not like some of his supporters, Wall Street does not like his vagueness, and the uncertainty as to what he does think, but if any Western Progressive thinks that the Governor has challenged directly or indirectly the wealth concentrated in New York City, he is mighty mistaken.

Mr. Roosevelt is, as a matter of fact, an excessively cautious politician. He has been Governor for three years and I doubt whether anyone can point at a single act of his which involved any political risk. Certainly his water power policy has cost him nothing, for the old interests who fought Smith have been displaced by more enlightened capitalists quite content to let the state finance the development. I can think of nothing else that could be described as evidence of his willingness to attack vested interests, and I can think of one outstanding case in which he has shown the utmost reluctance to attack them. I refer to his relations with Tammany.

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It is well known in N. Y., though apparently not in the West, that Governor Roosevelt had to be forced into assisting the exposure of corruption in New York City. It is well known in New York that, through his patronage, he has supported the present powers in Tammany Hall. It is well known that his policy has been to offend Tammany just as little as he dared in the face of the fact that an investigation of Tammany had finally to be undertaken. It is true that he is not popular in Tammany Hall, but though they do not like him, they vote for him. For there is a working arrangement between him and Tammany. That was proved last November when the Tammany organization went to the polls for the amendment which Smith opposed, and Roosevelt sponsored. Tammany had no interest in that amendment. Yet it was the Tammany machine which give the Governor his victory.

I do not say that Mr. Roosevelt might not at some time in the next few months fight Tammany. I do say that on his record these last three years he will fight Tammany only if and when he decides it it safe and profitable to do so. For Franklin D. Roosevelt is no crusader. He is no enemy of entrenched privilege. He is no tribune of the people. He is a pleasant man who, without any important qualification for the office would very much like to be President”

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(New York Herald Tribune, January 8, 1932, p. 19, columns 1, 2).

To Farley belongs the credit of having obtained the presidential nomination for Mr. Roosevelt. The idea may have originated with Louis Howe, but it was Farley who ruthlessly and relentlessly put through the deals for support that are now costing the nation such fabulous amounts in pork barrel appropriations. We all remember the drama at that Chicago Convention in 1932 when Farley dangled the vice-presidency before the Hearst backed Garner and Texas and California swung into line for Roosevelt. Smith had been double-crossed and left Chicago a beaten and disgruntled man. The new candidate theatrically dropped from the clouds by airplane and made his famous speech in which he promised to save the nation by strict economy and a "balanced budget." The dumb crowd applauded the new Moses who was going to lead us out of the wilderness.

The democratic party had on that occasion a wonderful opportunity to provide us with some able leader who could guide us out of the morass in which we were plunged, but instead it gave us a "will-o'-the-wisp" to follow, one that flashes no here, no there, and leads us from bog to bog.

It might have given us a man in whom we could have confidence, but instead it gave us the "forgotten man" of the Navy disclosures, the German

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marks, the Germanic Trust and the coin slot machine holding company.

It did, however, give us a pleasant gentleman, rather aristocratic and autocratic, clever in the game of politics but lacking in the qualities that go to make a statesman.

CHAPTER VI.

THE AMERICAN CIRCUS

In 1928 skillful press agent work put over on America the great legend of the humanitarian economist Hoover and this adventurer was elected to the highest office in the land. In 1932 Farley went the Republicans one better. He took as his candidate a name, the name made famous by Theodore Roosevelt, and built around it a myth, the myth of the good neighbor, the castigatior of money changers, the friend of the forgotten man. We turned out in our millions and voted, not for a man, but for the shadow of a man.

The artful politicians who had created this modern political robot soon found, however, that he had an exaggerated ego and wanted to do things his own way, no matter what the cost or how much the wreckage.

The first step taken by Mr. Roosevelt on being elected was the closing of the banks in order to permit the rearrangement of their disorderd finances. This was a measure that had been planned by Mr. Hoover for a long time, but he displayed too much good sportsmanship in soliciting the co-operation of Mr. Roosevelt, the President-

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elect, which the latter declined to give. Mr. Roosevelt was playing politics, while banks were crashing by the hundreds, ruining millions of investors. He wanted all the credit for himself.

When he did issue the executive order proclaiming the bank holiday, he received such general and widespread acclaim for taking this very necessary measure that it seems to have turned his head. Absolutely disregarding his campaign promises of economy, he immediately demanded from Congress a free hand and a fund of \$5,000,000,000 to be allocated under his personal direction. Congress, scenting plunder and the payment of political debts, demurely acquiesced. It was the first time they had had an aristocratic Lord Fauntleroy in the White House; let the boy have his way.

He did have his way. Hoover had kept his two cars in the garage, not able to make up his mind which one to take out, but Roosevelt had a more powerful machine with \$5,000,000,000 worth of fuel to start with and, when lifted into the driver's seat, he immediately gave it the gun; he was going places. However, to the consternation of us all, his friends of the Brain Trust clambered in and began tugging the wheel and fooling with all the gadgets and the machine has been spinning around in circles ever since, without getting anywhere. He evidently has a kind of Zioncheck complex and is having one great time, as can readily be seen from the inane grin with which he laughs

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at us in the newsreel pictures or in published photographs.

During Hoover's term of office, "The American Tragedy" had had a four-year run in Washington. Mr. Roosevelt decided to change all that and give us a perennial Punch instead, with himself as Punch occupying the center of the stage and laying on the big stick, or scattering pennies as the humor seized him, to the great amusement of the crowd. Nothing like a good laugh; it is fine for empty stomachs.

He had been reading "Alice in Wonderland." On arrival in Washington, he had found only a three-ring circus; why not a fifty-ring circus? No sooner said than done. Learned clowns were drafted to display their imbecilities, all at huge expense, but providing great fun for the people. Too numerous, however, they began treading on each other's heels and started squabbling when they should have been amusing us. Some of them had to be dropped, and many of the big tents with the fancy alphabetical names that housed them, and which had been erected at such enormous cost, had to be pulled down because they violated the building laws of the Constitution.

And the ring managers, what a comical lot! Hopkins, the professional boondoggler with his shower baths for Memphis dogs; Tugwell, the Major Bowes amateur, too deaf to hear the gong, exiling farmers to Alaska; Wallace, the modern

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Herod, slaughtering and burning millions of innocent piggies so that there would be less food to go around, and scattering millions to Porto Rico sugar growers, yet shrewd enough, according to Paul Potter, the agricultural editor of the Chicago Tribune, to make a fat profit for his family by the sale of his Hi-Bred seed corn to the farmers he is flinging our money to for plowing under their land. Article published in "Real America" of October 1934) The Romans never knew such a circus.

The fanciful ideas did not all originate with the hired men. The big chief had some of his own still more fantastic. One of these was the planting of a belt of trees 100 miles wide through the Middle West and extending for 1100 miles from Canada to Mexico. What for, it is hard to tell, except as some kind of interior decoration scheme or to provide timber for his wife's furniture shop. Another that would cost only a couple of hundred millions was to cut a canal through Florida, probably to give the fish a short cut from the Gulf of Mexico because no ships would use it. A third one is the plan for harnessing the tide at Passamaquoddy in Maine, a project similar to that which had been studied for the Severn in England for years and abandoned as utterly impractical. These, however, are only samples of Mr. Roosevelt's fanciful imagination. There is no knowing what he may be saving for his next administration, perhaps the Transatlantic tunnel, a railway

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to the moon, or the exploitation of the oyster beds in the Pacific.

A cry of pain goes up from the millions without work. To the lions with them! Don't they read the papers and know that things were never so prosperous in Washington? The camp followers are there by the hundreds of thousands, some without jobs and some with jobs, but not knowing what their jobs are, yet all drawing fat salaries and crowding out the native inhabitants. The hotels are full, the bars are jammed and some of our Congressmen are drunk all the time. It is Utopia Unlimited.

The Cabinet Council looks on, twiddles its thumbs and applauds. Most of them simply don't belong in their seats, just political hacks being rewarded for services rendered. A tax expert is Secretary of State, an agriculturist—Secretary of the Treasury, a mining man—Secretary of War, a great constitutional lawyer—(don't all laugh at once) is Attorney General, a prize ring bulldozer—Postmaster General a food gambler—Secretary of Agriculture, and an elderly woman is Secretary of Labor, battling feebly for jobs for 12,600,00 unemployed! Yet some of them are very fine people, but it is not theirs to reason why. They have a "must" man in command, a dictator, Not an upstart of the Mussolini or Hitler type, but an honest-to-goodness aristocrat with seven generations behind him, with a pedigree almost as long

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and a mentality almost as keen as George III. Arthur Krock once referred to it as a card index mentality, but he forgot to state that the cards are blank. That this is no exaggeration is amply proved by the above-mentioned ridiculously fantastic projects he has personally sponsored and on which huge sums have been expended without specific authorization of Congress, only to be abandoned when their folly was finally realized.

This American circus is costing billions of dollars yearly. Where does the money come from? From the rich? No, bless your heart, no. This talk of soaking the rich with increased income taxes is so much hokum. It is each and every one of us who pays in concealed indirect taxes on everything we eat and drink and smoke and wear, sales taxes on what we buy, even on the gas and electricity we use, and yet we cannot keep up with the spending. The Government elected on the economy and budget balancing platform is going in the red at the rate of five billion dollars a year. How can this deficit be made good? Why, by borrowing money against our children's future and by increasing the indirect taxes until we have no more money to spend and, when this fails, by drilling another hole in the American dollar.

CHAPTER VII.

THE FIRST LADY

This gracious lady, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, married her cousin, Franklin D. Roosevelt, in 1905 and raised a family of five children. She is herself a Roosevelt, being a niece of the great Theodore, and, like her husband, is a direct descendant in the eighth generation of the forgotten man, Claes Martenszen, who first trod these shores nearly 300 years ago.

The "Lady Eleanor", as she has been called by the Congressional rhymers McGroarty, needs no introduction to the American public. She is known throughout the land for her many activities. She is the lady who has told us in the press what products to buy, what clothes to wear, what food to eat, even how to care for our babies. In a syndicated newspaper column she even continues to inform us of her daily doings, lest we forget.

Of varied talent and remarkable vigor, Eleanor Roosevelt has distinguished herself in many a field of activity, as an educator, a literary critic and even as an industrialist. She is manager of the Todhunter School of New York City, and Vice-President of the Van Kill furniture shops.

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She is also a clever and able writer and despite the heavy demands on her time, for social activities, has found time to write several books, and edit a magazine on the care of babies. Her literary efforts include "When you grow up to vote", "It is up to women", an edition of the letters of her father on the hunting of Big Game, and a preface to a special edition of "Alice in Wonderland". She is a lady who, without the gifts of fortune, would undoubtedly have attained distinction.

Mrs. Roosevelt is also extremely active in the field of politics and government and has displayed considerable intelligence, energy and back-seat driving ability. In fact, she has constituted herself a kind of ambassador-at-large for the administration. She is not yet a member of the Cabinet; however, it is she who has initiated the Resettlement Administration, an agency established without specific authorization of Congress with the vast allocation of more than \$278,000,000 and which is conducted by the Brain Truster Tugwell, aided by a small group of assistants who number less than seventeen thousand and do not draw quite \$25,000,000 yearly in salaries.

This amiable gently-bred lady also honors us daily in the press or newsreel with her ingratiating smile, scattering kind words of comfort in our distress and holding out to us promises of cake in the distant future instead of the common bread we would like to have right now.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE CROWN PRINCE

James Roosevelt, the eldest son of the President, was born December, 1907. An athletic young man, he studied law at Boston University Law School, but, true to the easy money tradition of the Roosevelt family, he took up insurance as a profession on his father's election to the Presidency, knowing what an asset the family name and political connections would be. He had had no experience in this line, yet he managed to write some of the largest policies ever taken out. There is one for \$2,500,000 on the life of G. W. Hill, and a fire insurance policy of \$40,000,000 is said to have been written by him on the factories and properties of the National Distillers Corporation. This raw young man is accordingly earning a huge income from this source, not for any talent or ability he has, but simply because he is the crown prince of the Roosevelt family.

That he considers himself to be the crown prince is evidenced by a speech of his in August, 1933, when he callously gave notice to Massachusetts democracy that he would have to be consulted first regarding political appointments. The New York Times of September 3, 1933, under the caption "The Crown Prince," tell us:

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“The implications of these principles are plain. Yet young Mr. Roosevelt said more. He almost said, ‘I am It.’ ‘As you know,’ he declared, ‘I am probably closest by blood and affection to the man who makes the appointments.’ ”

He did exert his patronage influence even at that early date. We read in the New York Times of September 13, 1933, of his securing the appointment of some of his friends to bank receiver-ships, including one who was a drug store clerk! That he was justified in assuming himself to be the blue-blooded Roosevelt heir is proved by his appointment by his father to serve the Government in an advisory capacity. He went to Washington to give it the benefit of his adolescent wisdom, and perhaps to act as a kind of interpreter for the latest combination of Brain Trusters, whom Mencken rather disrespectfully describes as a “mob of mountebanks” but who, in spite of their strange theories and although their language may not quite be ours, are really mostly very respectable gentlemen. This does not mean, of course, that James is yet in the Cabinet but stranger things have happened. Did not the Roman emperor Caligula appoint his horse to be a Consul of the Eternal City?

The important advisory duties taken over by James Roosevelt in May, 1935, did not prevent his hooking up in the following July with the

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National Grain Yeast Company of Belleville, N. J., of which James took over the presidency. This business was established during the prohibition era by the notorious Waxey Gordon gang to supply yeast to the bootleg brewers, and young James as made it quite respectable by lending to it the great name of Roosevelt. There has been a bit of a stench attached to his connection with this business, although it is now perfectly legitimate, and he resigned temporarily last November, but still remains his interest in it.

There appears to be a great future for this young man. In the insurance game there is a new field opening up, that of insurance against increases in income tax, and no doubt preference might be shown to one so close to sources of information, and then there is a possibility that there will be quite a considerable amount of riot insurance within the next few years if the unemployment situation does not show some improvement. In the political arena, also, his prospects are very bright and no doubt he would be prepared to climb into his father's chair when the latter feels like retiring as Chief Executive. Of course, he could not qualify just now under the age limit, but the Constitution can always be conveniently voided to accommodate a Roosevelt.

CHAPTER IX.

THE OTHER PRINCELINGS

The other members of Franklin Roosevelt's family are not particularly noted for anything but their utter disregard of ethics and of our divorce and traffic laws. Of his three married children, two have obtained Reno divorces after a visit of a few weeks to the notorious divorce mill, displaying complete contempt for the divorce laws of their native State, of which their father had been Governor, and which State still considers Reno divorces obtained under such conditions as invalid. Every one of the four princes have been arrested at one time or another for auto speeding, and one of them Franklin D., Jr., has been arrested so often and in so many States for speeding and other traffic violations, even after causing serious bodily injury, that it shames us into the admission that there is one law for the rich and another for the poor, as he could never have kept out of jail if he had not been one of the royal Roosevelts. His brother James has now given this speed maniac a kind of silk-lined canvas glove job as truck driver for the National Grain Yeast Company, evidently with a view to raising the accident insurance rates in the State of New Jersey.

THE OTHER PRINCELINGS

The second son, Elliott, who is in the advertising business, has certainly given himself an unusual amount of unpleasant publicity through his Reno divorce in 1933 and hasty remarriage. He has recently gone into the radio business, associating himself with the Hearst interests and becoming vice-president of Hearst Radio, Inc. His KTSA Broadcasting Station of San Antonio, of which company he is president, was authorized a few days ago by the Federal Communications Commission without holding any public hearing.

In this radio business, Elliott Roosevelt has allied himself with the interests of Hearst, the newspaper tycoon, who has displayed such virulent animosity to the young man's father.

It would be curious and interesting for some psychologist to try and explain the origin and development of this urge for notoriety displayed by both sides of the Roosevelt family, and compare it with the retiring attitude of their common ancestor, Claes Martenszen, who so carefully dodged publicity as to even avoid paying taxes.

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POST TO ROOSEVELT SON

Elliot Becomes Vice President of Hearst Radio in Texas.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Elliot Roosevelt, son of the President, has become vice president of Hearst Radio, Inc., operating company for stations owned by William Randolph Hearst, it was revealed today in Broadcasting, a radio magazine here. The White House refused to make any comment.

Coincidentally, the President's 28-year-old second son became president of KTSA, a broadcasting company of San Antonio, and of KT Broadcasting Company, the licensee of Station KNOW of Austin. His appointment to these two positions was made March 10.

Since September Elliot has been vice president and sales promotion manager of the Southwest Broadcasting Company, two of whose stations have recently been purchased by the Hearst interests. He informed the radio magazine that he would continue to make his headquarters at Fort Worth and also would maintain his former position.

CHAPTER X.

LOOKING FORWARD

Mr. Roosevelt had hardly entered the White House, on the renovation of which a very large sum has been spent for his particular benefit, than he started campaigning for re-election. Disregarding campaign promises of economy, billions of dollars are being squandered for the particular purpose of continuing him, perhaps of perpetuating him, in office. As James P. Warburg, who has been one of Mr. Roosevelt's advisers and knows what he is talking about, has put it: he is "hell bent for election."

Why Mr. Roosevelt should want to continue in office is a mystery. Utterly unfitted for the job, he has shown no aptitude for it, and no ability. This is not quite unexpected, for, as we have seen, he had proved a failure in every other field of activity he had entered. As the farmers say: "An ass does not go out in the morning and come home a horse at night." This is not the age of miracles. It is said that a good general is the one who makes the fewest mistakes. But Mr. Roosevelt seems to make nothing but mistakes. He has his signals all mixed. Every time his team tries to make an advance, it is an advance in reverse. His old string

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of Brain Trust coaches have all gone—all except the tenacious Tugwell, and the new ones — Lubin, Wyzanski, Ezekiel—don't seem to know what the game is all about.

And it is arduous work, too. Of course, Mr. Roosevelt takes very frequent vacations, but frequent vacations are not enough; he should take a permanent vacation. He should realize by now that the Ship of State is not a 20-foot yawl, but a super-liner. It requires not only a sturdy and steady hand to steer it, but a man of authority to control the crew and with brains enough to read the charts, not one who doesn't know whether he is in the Atlantic or the Pacific.

But greed and vanity grow with the years and the vanity that drove Mr. Roosevelt to seek the part of a puppet dictator and sham superman will fight to keep him on the stage despite the ringing of the gong. The fisherman has hooked the bait and laid his lines, believing the suckers will bite. He has billions for relief of those kept out of work by the muddling vagaries of his administration. And these suckers are led to believe that this relief is all coming from their "Father Divine," whereas nearly 90 per cent of it is furnished by their more fortunate neighbors in the form of sales and other local taxes. For that 11 per cent., the crust of the bread, the free and independent people who happen to be poor are expected to sell their votes. Perhaps they will. And

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FISHING FOR FISH



Times Wide World.

**The President; a picture taken on his
yacht in Nassau Harbor.**

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maybe the trade union leaders can be bought to try and herd their "sheep" into the voting booths as Wallace herded the pigs into the stockyard pens. It would be well for them to remember, however, that these billions are evidently intended to be spent just to buy the election and continue incompetent men in office. After that, the recipients of Federal relief can go starve or hang as far as the Federal Government is concerned. For has not Mr. Roosevelt himself stated in his last annual message to Congress: "The Federal Government must and shall quit this business of relief."

It has been said that you cannot kill your successor, but that is exactly what Mr. Roosevelt will do if he is elected to succeed himself. Four more years of his crazy-brained administration will bring us to the point of despair and revolution. As Westbrook Pegler, the noted columnist, has written in a recent article in the New York World-Telegram:

"Four years from now, when the new boss sweeps out, Mr. Roosevelt will probably be the most hated President and the worst flop in the history of the U. S. A."

Not only that, but he will probably wreck for another generation the great Democratic Party, the party of Andrew Jackson, of Grover Cleveland and of Woodrow Wilson.

LOOKING FORWARD

For the New Deal has utterly failed, and it has failed because it was never meant to succeed. Twelve million men and women are still jobless, and hunger and destitution exist throughout the land.

Of course, it would be foolish to deny that a great deal of good has been accomplished by some of the Government agencies, such as the RFC but the net results obtained have been entirely out of proportion to the vast sums expended and have been attained in general at the expense of the morale and liberty of the people and with a disturbance of industry and business that has produced an atmosphere of uncertainty and prevented a pick-up in employment. Also, many of the projects initiated at enormous cost by the AAA, the FERA and the WPA and the Resettlement Administration personally sponsored by Mr. Roosevelt, have been so amateurish, unscientific, uneconomical and fantastic as to merit the word "lunacy." Taking it by and large, the New Deal has been a colossal failure. Money has been thrown into the sink in billions, an army of bureaucrats has arisen like a plague of locusts, and the resulting sense of insecurity has restricted the employment of labor and made paupers of millions of free Americans.

Under the spell of press and radio ballyhoo, a great many may not realize it, but we are up against new brand of fascism, a new type of pri-

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vileged bureaucracy, that wants to introduce the word "Verboten" into our daily lives. This is in direct conflict with all democratic principles. We can still save the Democratic Party and the Nation from this humiliation by electing honest and intelligent men to Congress, and by choosing as President a competent man, no matter what party label he wears, provided he has plain horse sense and has his head on his shoulders and not in the clouds. Here is where the common man, the man in the street, has as much power as the mightiest in the land. His vote counts equally as much and he wants to cast that vote for order, for progress, and above all for work. He does not want to be regimented, but wants equality of opportunity under the square deal sponsored by the great Theodore Roosevelt for rich and poor alike, and not a phoney New Deal of the "Alice in Wonderland" type, something given with one hand and taken away with the other.

The time has come for action and leadership. We are tired of being flim-flammed by grafters and hypocrotical money changers in high office. We are looking forward, and there must be no turning back. The people of the United States want security of work, protection against the ravages of illness and old age, and enjoyment of the liberties guaranteed by the Constitution. There is plenty of money in the country, plenty of brains, plenty of hands. All we need is a leader who will inspire confidence. But he must first of

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all be a man, not a phantasy. Democrat or Republican it matters not, provided he is mentally capable, physically able, and morally honest and sincere—qualities we do not find in the present representative of the aristocratic house of Roosevelt.



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